The Chicago Daily Tribune.

VOLUME 26. CHICAGO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1872. NUMBER 115.

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FURS! HATS!

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STRYKER & CO.,
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Local Committee.

J. F. GILMAN FOSTER, Of Foster & Somers. GORDON NORRIE, Of Boorman, Johnston & Co.
CHARLTON, ESQ., Of Peter & Somers. HOWARD POTTER, Of Brown Bros. & Co.
GOODELL REDMOND, Of Dennistoun & Co.

Total Funds, Gold, - $13,234,425
Fire Assets, Gold, - - $5,064,000

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HOLIDAY GIFTS.

APPROPRIATE
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

FIELD, LEITER & CO.

For the next 15 days, will offer

The Most Complete Stock of Silks,

Selected with special reference to the Holiday Season.

Specialties from the most CELEBRATED LOOMS of LYONS.

Rich COLORED GROS GRAIN SILKS, new SHADES for STREET and DINNER WEAR.

BRONZE—All casts, from the most delicate GOLD DUST hue to dark VENETIAN BRONZE.

SAGE—In all its most exquisite tints, PLUM, PRUNE and MULBERRY in desirable colorings, ARGENT, FRENCH, SCOTCH, and UNION GRAY, Flame, Ruby, and Garnet.

Late novelties in PEACOCK and HUMMING BIRD tints, from darkest shades for the promenade to most delicate hues for Ball and Opera.

Costume Shades, specially for evening and full reception.

Novelties entirely new this season—BROCADES, for EVENING, RECEPTION, HOUSE, and CARRIAGE wear.

PEKIN SILKS in TUNIC PATTERNS, EMBOSSED, BROCADED, VARIEGATED—a novelty imported for their own retail trade.

STRIPED and FANCY SILKS—Very latest designs.

A late mark down in prices will insure to our customers great bargains.

With the CLOSING OF THE YEAR, we will make LOW PRICES DEPARTMENTS.

State and Twentieth-sts., Madison and Market-sts.

HOLIDAY GOODS.

For the better accommodation of our friends and customers our store will be kept open every evening until Christmas.

We have a full stock in every department.

N. MATSON & CO.,
STATE AND MONROE-STS.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Christopher Crooked:

A CHRISTMAS STORY.
BY
W. E. HATHAWAY.

A BOOK FOR EVERYBODY.

[From the New York Independent].

"Mr. Hathaway's Story, 'Christopher Crooked,' is one of the kind that having a moral are yet readable. We do not agree with the writer as respects the physiological basis of the tale, but he has made an unusually interesting story upon it, and one which we can heartily recommend."

The author of the "Hoosier Schoolmaster," and "The End of the World," in a private letter to Mr. Hathaway, says:

"On the ground of high art, I should have to complain that the theme is one on which tales can hardly be written as works of art; and yet your style is fluent, almost mercurial, your story unique, curious, and interesting. It is all you claim for it when you say, 'It is a thing of itself.' This is a frank opinion from your sincere friend.—Edward Eggleston."

"It is both touching and terrible."—Hearth and Home.

"The story is tragic, * * * but ends well. The style of the writer is poetic, his pictures are well drawn, and truthful to nature and fact."—Ladies' Repository.

Ninety-six pages. 16mo. Very heavy tinted paper.

Price, in cloth, elegantly bound, $1. In paper, 50c. Sent by mail, postage paid, on receipt of the price. Liberal discount to the trade.

For sale by HADLEY BROTHERS, Chicago, Ill., ROBT. CLARKE & CO., Cincinnati, O.

FINANCIAL.

REAL ESTATE LOANS

Negotiated at current rates. Several loans of from $5,000 to $8,000 each will be taken at 9 per cent, provided the security is very choice. NORMAN C. PERKINS, Kendall's Building.

Loans Negotiated

On real estate, in the city or suburbs, at current rates.
G. S. HUBBARD, Jr.,
128 East Washington-st.

A. O. Slaughter,
BANKER,
Corner Clark and Madison-sts. Buys and sells Stocks, Bonds, and Gold. Receives money on deposit and transacts a General Banking and Brokerage Business.

THE LAST HORROR.

Burning of a Portion of the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York.

Eleven Servant Girls, Unable to Escape, Burned to Death.

Two Persons Seriously Injured by Jumping to a Neighboring Roof.

The Remains of the Victims Taken to the Morgue for Identification.

Heartrending Sights at the Recognition of Some of the Bodies.

The Stampede Among the Guests ---How the Fire Originated.

The Hotel Damaged $150,000.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The extent of the calamity at the Fifth Avenue Hotel fire last night was not ascertained until this morning, and many exaggerations have been afloat all day. The facts, however, are horrible enough. Eleven of the scrubbing women employed in the hotel were burned to death, and one scrub-woman and one fireman were severely injured by falls. This completes the casualty list. None of the guests were injured, and none are missing, though scattered around in adjacent hotels.

The origin of the fire has not been satisfactorily ascertained. It commenced in a part of the Twenty-third street wing, occupied by the 500 servants employed in the hotel, through which a wooden spiral stairway runs from top to bottom, and also the laundry elevator. The smoke was first detected by a gentleman boarder about retiring to bed, who informed the clerk. The alarm was given, and when the employes of the house reached the upper stories, occupied by the servants, the flames had gained furious headway on the top floor where the spiral staircase was ablaze. The servants in the fifth and sixth stories were roused with difficulty, and escaped hurriedly in their night dresses. By this time consternation had spread among the guests, nearly all of whom vacated the [illegible] scrub-women, occupying two rooms in the seventh story, were completely cut off from escape by the stairway. A window opened on the roof, a few feet below, but it was barred up by a strong iron grating, intended to prevent any ingress from the quarters of the late servants. It is said this grating could have been readily wrenched loose, but the women who perished had doubtless lost all presence of mind, for their roasted bodies were found huddled together in in the centre of the room.

There was an explosion of a steam pipe in one the servant's rooms, but this was the result of the fire, and not the cause. The fire originated probably through the carelessness of some of the female servants, and crept rapidly upward between the lath partition to the wooden cock-loft, covered with tarred roof, where the unfortunate women perished. It must have been burning some time before the alarm was given. The servants were paid off yesterday, and, possibly, drunkenness was at the bottom of the calamity.

It was with the greatest difficulty that the domestics were awakened. As their rooms were directly under the burning roof, many were almost a tifled with the smoke before they were aware of the conflagration, and had to be dragged out. Their lamentations were pitiable in the extreme, as they bewailed their loss of everything worldly.

The cock-loft in which the girls were burned to death is considerably burned out, and the whole of the Twenty-third street end of the building is deluged with water. The furniture, bedding, carpets, etc., are all ruined by water. Viewed from the outside, to-day, the hotel looks the same as usual, the walls not being injured. About 100 rooms for guests, which is about one-fifth of the whole number in the hotel, are damaged by water. The ceilings in three upper stories must all come down, also that of the dining room. Repairs were began to-day, and will be rapidly prosecuted.

The bodies of the victims were recovered about 3 o'clock this morning, and taken in ambulances to the Morgue. The scene at the Morgue, to-day, was truly heartrending. From 8 o'clock until 5 a constant stream of men and women viewed the bodies of the unfortunate women who were burned or scalded to death in the fire-trap attic. It is estimated that over twenty-five thousand persons viewed the charred remains, most of whom were attracted by morbid curiosity, though many were searching for relatives and friends who had been employed in the hotel. The police had great difficulty in restraining women, thousands of whom clamored for admission. When many of them confronted the terrible sight, they began a terrible weeping, praying, and deploring themselves extravagantly. Several were led off in a fainting condition, and one young woman, who was accompanied by her mother, fell in a fit and was removed by force.

The bodies were ranged side by side in rough pine coffins in the yard at the western end of the Morgue. Several among the deceased had been burned almost to cinders, while others had been literally roasted, in some instances the flesh was scalded from the bones.

The first body identified was that of Mary Ann Fagan, Irish, aged 25, unmarried, a scrub-woman, who was first taken to Bellevue Hospital, last night, suffering from scalds and burns.

The next identified was Mary McCabe, Irish, aged 25, married. She had been employed at the Fifth Avenue two months, and previously at the Hoffman House for three years. Her husband is in Ireland.

A third body was first identified as that of Mary Webb, laundress, but Mary was found to be alive, and the body afterwards proved to be that of Mary Dewey, scrub woman, aged 25, a native of this State. She was scalded to death.

Lizzie Moran, scrub woman, aged 20, single, Irish, five years in this country, was identified by a fellow-servant by her peculiarly formed feet. The bones of the victim were in some cases denuded of flesh, and the body had evidently been roasted after death.

Kate McDonald, aged 26, English, four years in this country, was identified by her brother, whose lamentations were bitter.

The last one identified was Honora Ward, aged 23, single, only three weeks in America. She was horribly charred. Her limbs were all gone, and she was only recognizable by her large size.

Five bodies, greatly disfigured by fire, steam, and smoke, have not been identified thus far, but their names are supposed to be Della Cummings, Mary Cordacy, Margaret O'Connor, Mary Campbell, and Kate Cushing. They will probably have to be buried as unknown women, as not a familiar expression or vestige of clothing remains.

From this sickening spectacle at the Morgue, your reporter went to the female ward No. 28 Bellevue Hospital, where Mary Jane Hovey lies suffering from severe contusions on the back. The history of her escape, told by herself, was as follows:

"I was undressed and just going to put out the light and jump into bed, when one of the girls, who slept with me in Room 529, asked me to get her a drink of water. As I opened the door, I heard an alarm of fire. I ran back into the room and told Maggie Kelly, Katy Burns, and Mary Hand that the building was on fire. At that moment a man rushed into our room, tore the iron screen from the window, and jumped out on the roof. The three girls followed him, but I was afraid and ran to the elevator leading to the laundry. It was on fire. The flames were bursting up all round me, and the blaze was jumping across the corridor licking up Nos. 511 and 513, both occupied by scrap women who go to bed early and have to get up at 3 o'clock in the morning to scrub out the office, barroom, and other places. When I found I could not get down that way, I went to the window and jumped out. In my fright I did not see where I was going down, and fell. I hurt myself severely."

Concerning her room mates she said: "I know Maggie Kelly is safe, but am uncertain as to the others. A lot of men were on our floor, calling the women and telling them that the house was on fire, but they must have forgotten to awake the scrub women."

The Coroner will begin an investigation to-morrow.

Among the Western guests at the Fifth Avenue yesterday, were the following:

Chicago—H. Riddell, C. Gossage, W. A. Boynton, J. Hippler, C. B. Brown, G. M. Pullman, H. P. Brown.

St. Louis—J. A. Emery, J. C. Hamilton.

Louisville—Mrs. Hunt, Miss Ward, J. W. Hunt.

[To the Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—A fire broke out at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last night, shortly after 11 o'clock, on the second floor of the hotel. The staircase upon which the fire started was one at the back of the house, leading from the laundry in the basement to the servants' rooms on the attic floor. The flames ran rapidly up the stairway, which operated as a chimney, there being no opening from it except at the top and bottom. It ate up the staircase and charred its surroundings, reaching the open space into which the rooms of the servants opened, where it burst into its fullest strength.

The flames in their passage did little or no damage until they reached the corridor at the top, the draught through the narrow passageway carrying the flames quickly and making them more destructive. As they went on they spread over the entire extent of the west wing. The woodwork of the rooms where the servants slept immediately caught fire, and soon the entire wing was a mass of lurid flame. The flames spread so rapidly that the servants asleep in the rooms at the top of the staircase were overtaken before assistance could reach them, and they were completely shut off from the main building. The firemen, who had in the meantime arrived, were too late for their assistance, as by this time the apartments of the poor creatures were enveloped in flames.

Shortly after 1 o'clock, when it was found that a number of persons were missing, a police officer and a Chief of the Fire Department effected an entrance, by means of an iron ladder, to the room where the servants were supposed to be. They there found the charred and burned bodies of thirteen persons. Bedding and furniture were strewn about the rooms, confused with human remains. The bodies lay at the different places from which the poor people had tried to find means of egress. Some had endeavored to escape through windows; others, in the endeavor to find air, had fallen at the head of the staircase. The bodies of two women were half concealed under a bed in an outer room, where they had evidently tried to shelter themselves from the blinding, suffocating smoke, and the scathing flames. When the firemen and police got into the wing, the floors of this room were sound, but the roof timbers were burned and fallen in a confused mass upon the several inches [illegible] from the hose was filtering through to the ground. The burning beams of the roof had fallen upon the [illegible] sleeper then said that "the statements of them, [illegible] by my colleague." "worthy of them, [illegible] him," and point of the Democratic side, [illegible] rushed to the front and rallied around [illegible] Speer and Manson. On the Republican side nearly all the members were upon their feet, and the scene was a very exciting one.

Samuel Randall, glowering at Mr. Townsend, asked excitedly, "Where were you in the war?"

"At home," replied Mr. Townsend.

"Yes, you were at home making money out of the soldiers," said Randall.

"And where, pray, were you," retorted Townsend.

"I was a private," answered Randall.

"In the Home Guard," broke in some Republican.

And this sort of thing continued until the Speaker succeeded with his mallet in quelling the disturbance. The bill goes over till to-morrow, and is sure of defeat.

THE INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL

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Judge Kelley to-day resigned his Chairmanship of the House Civil Service Committee, and also that of Coinage, Weights, and Measures, which he has held so long. This action was to enable him to devote his entire time to the Centennial Committee, of which he is Chairman.

Mr. Hooper, of Massachusetts, is second on both the Committees from which Mr. Kelley retired, and succeeds to the Chairmanship of both. He is also at the head of the Banking and Currency Committee, and thus becomes Chairman of three Committees, while a great many old members have no Chairmanship at all.

RECOMMENDED HIGHLY.

The Ohio delegation in Congress, Democrats included, have united in a letter to the President, asking the appointment of Colonel James Harlan (colored), of Cincinnati, to some office suitable to his high character and qualifications. The Colonel is well known to the President, he having spent some time with him at Long Branch, two years ago, an account of which visit was published at the time in Cincinnati. It is understood the appointment desired is the mission to Hayti.

THE VIENNA EXPOSITION.

General Thomas B. Van Buren, the United States Commissioner to the Vienna Exposition, was before the Foreign Affairs Committee to-day, urging an appropriation of $300,000 to be expended by the Secretary of State to aid American exhibitors in fitting up proper accommodations, conveying articles to and from the two countries, and defraying the expenses of the United States on that occasion. The Committee is favorably disposed, inasmuch as $250,000 was appropriated for the Paris Exposition.

MR. COLFAX.

There is reason to believe, from the statements made by the most intimate and trusted of Mr. Colfax's friends, that he will resign the Vice Presidency of the United States on the 1st of January next to become the editor of the New York *Tribune*, a position which was tendered to him about a week ago. The statement is that he was first offered the position at a salary of $12,000, being $2,000 more than was paid Mr. Greeley, but that he declined till he was finally offered $20,000 a year and a certain interest in the paper. The question then arose as to his position: whether he was to fill the office of Editor-in-Chief in place of Mr. Greeley, or whether he was to act under certain restrictions, the general management of the paper to remain as at present? It is understood that this point has not yet been decided. Mr. Colfax goes to New York on Friday, when it is expected some decision will be reached.

THE ALABAMA TROUBLES.

The Attorney General to-day submitted a compromise to the President, looking to the solution of the political difficulties in Alabama. The Spencer factions, who have been made acquainted with the nature of the document, appear to be in high flutter, although Spencer himself is far from being satisfied. Several Republican Senators have already expressed themselves as unwilling to admit a Senator whose only credentials for admission came from a faction. The Attorney General's opinion will be made public to-morrow. The President, in conversation to-day, said that he did not consider that the Spencer faction stood on tenable grounds, although in whatever action he might take, he should be guided by the desires of what appeared to be the majority of people in Alabama.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

The Senate Naval Committee gave a long hearing to-day to Secretary Robeson, who is very much dissatisfied with the way in which the House passed his bill providing for additional sloops-of-war. He wants the original number of ten restored, and also desires that the building of the vessels be left entirely to his discretion. He says that where he is obliged to let out the contracts to private yards there will be some bidders who cannot do the work either quickly or well, and who, if they are called upon for extra work, will be bringing in claims to Congress for relief. The Committee will hold another session before they can be ready to report the bill.

PROPOSED ABOLITION.

The Senate Finance Committee to-day devoted a long session to the consideration of Commissioner Douglas's bill abolishing the office of Assessor of Internal Revenue. Senators have been so besieged by the officials who stand in fear of decapitation that some of them show a disposition to interpose obstacles in the way of this reform. The Commissioner made the principal argument in behalf of the bill, showing that it not only decreased largely the number of officials, but that it also would facilitate as well as cheapen the collection of revenue. The Amendment was to the bill increasing the number of special agents from twenty-five to fifty. The Commissioner asked that the section making all special taxes provided by law payable by stamps be amended to take effect May 1st, next, the beginning of the new tax year. The Committee having reported the bill, will take it up to-morrow and pass it immediately. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue is now of the opinion that the collections of Internal Revenue for the current year will go $8,000,000 or $10,000,000 beyond his original estimate. This announcement imparts considerable strength to the proposition in Congress to remove all internal taxes except those on liquors and tobacco.

RAILROAD FREIGHTS.

The House Committee on Commerce is generally disposed to enact some legislation this winter which will regulate tolls for freights and passengers on railroads running through several States. Last session, this Committee, after an investigation of the subject, came to the conclusion that railroad companies taxed through passengers and freights at losing prices, and made the losses good by having overcharge in local passenger and freight rates. The bill offered by Mr. Shellabarger, yesterday, relating to this subject, will be taken up by this Committee at its meeting on Thursday, and will undoubtedly be agreed to.

THE CREDIT MOBILIER INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

meets to-morrow. The witnesses summoned are Colonel R. S. McComb, John B. Alley, and J. S. T. Williams, the last two Directors of the Union Pacific Railroad. Speaker Blaine volunteers to go before the Committee and state what he knows about the issue of stock to members of Congress. He was not summoned by the Committee. In view of the fact that Mr. Blaine was charged with having received some of the stock, they will allow him to make a statement. The proceedings are to be kept secret.

SENATOR PATTERSON.

Mr. J. J. Patterson, the Senator-elect from South Carolina, who has, since his election, been arrested on a charge of bribery, hails from Pennsylvania. He was originally editor of the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, General Cameron's home organ. In 1856 he ran for Congress in the Nineteenth District of Pennsylvania and was defeated. During the war he was interested with Cameron in the mail and horse contracts, the exposure of which resulted in Cameron's expulsion from Lincoln's Cabinet. About five years ago he went to South Carolina, and joined Governor Scott and the ring that plundered that State and ruined its credit. Like Scott, he managed to make a large sum of money, and then became ambitious of political honors. Two or three weeks before the Senatorial election in South Carolina, Patterson visited Harrisburg, and was in consultation with General Cameron, his son, Dan Cameron, and several other members of the Pennsylvania Ring. It is stated by prominent Pennsylvanians here, who are said to be familiar with the facts and circumstances, that Cameron raised a large sum of money for his friend and protege, some say as much as $30,000, for the purpose of securing his election to the Senate. At all events, Patterson went to the State capital of South Carolina with some $30,000, and gave out that [illegible] he would spend that amount on his election, among his friends. Patterson's friends say that they [illegible] Elliot and Sawyer. It appears, however, [illegible] to such a degree is ambitious to be [illegible] any fight up a job on Patterson, to use a common [illegible] who in conjunction with some of his negro brethren in the Legislature, with a view to disqualify him for the position. Elliot, so the story goes, advised his colored friends in the Legislature to take Patterson's money and then turn State's evidence against him. Patterson, it is alleged, paid at the rate of five hundred to a thousand dollars each for votes, and, altogether, his election cost him $50,000. As soon as the election was over, the negroes proceeded to carry out the programme as proposed by Elliot, and a dozen of them made affidavit to the effect that they had been bribed. Patterson's arrest followed. A curious circumstance of the election was, that James L. Orr was a warm friend of Patterson. It is stated that Senator Cameron urged upon the President the nomination of Orr for the Russian mission, and that the consideration, so far as Orr was concerned, was that he should help Patterson. The supposition here is that the negro Elliott will, after all, be elected Senator.

RELIEF BILL.

The Senate to-day passed the bill for the relief of Edmund Jussen, of Chicago, arising from the loss of certain warehouse bonds from the distillery of Hass & Powell before the same was destroyed by fire. The bill transfers his indebtedness to the account of his successor in office.

[To the Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The Supreme Court rendered a decision in the case of the United States against Cooke, from the Circuit Court of the Southern District of Ohio. Cooke was indicted for embezzlement of the public funds, while Paymaster in the army. The Court decides that he is liable to be prosecuted, convicted, and punished, and that the thirty-second section of the Crimes act contains only a limitation applicable to the charge, but it cannot be made available by a demurrer to the indictment.

THE NAVY.

The Senate Naval Committee briefly discussed the bill providing for the construction of the new sloops of war, but took no action thereon. It is considered certain, however, that the Committee will recommend the provision for ten vessels instead of six provided in the bill passed by the House.

ARMY MATTERS.

The Superintendent of Mounted Recruiting Service has been directed to prepare and forward all disposable white recruits to Omaha, Neb., for assignment to the Second Cavalry in the Department of the Platte.

By direction of the President, the headquarters of the Military Division of the Atlantic is transferred from Philadelphia to New York City.

SECRETARY DELANO.

Secretary Delano said to-day he was going South under the advice of his physician for rest, and no other reason, and probably he may visit Havana before his return.

CONFIRMATIONS.

The Senate, in Executive session, to-day, confirmed the following nominations: Ward Hunt, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, *vice* Samuel Nelson, resigned; Samuel F. Phillips, Solicitor General of the United States, *vice* B. H. Bristow, resigned. Supervisors of Internal Revenue, W. P. W. Perry, William H. Simmons, Simon T. Powell, Louis M. Foulke, Daniel W. Mann, John M. Hedrick, John McDonald.

Henry A. Newlan, Collector of Internal Revenue, Nebraska; Frederick C. Lord, Assessor of Internal Revenue, Nevada; N. B. Judd, Collector of Customs, Chicago; Robert Henschel, Melter and Refiner in the Assay Office, Boise City, Idaho.

Consuls, Lucius Fairchild, Liverpool; S. W. Dobney, Fayal; Lorenzo Brentano, Dresden. Richard Beardsley to be Agent and Consul General at Alexandria, *vice* George H. Butler, suspended.

Postmasters—Mrs. Phoebe A. Collins, Confleville, Pa.; F. C. Albright, Mason, Mich.; W. H. Aplin, Winona, Mich.; B. F. Bradley, Midland, Mich.; E. P. Royce, Escanaba, Mich.; H. C. Morton, Benton Harbor, Mich.; L. M. Jaquess, Reno, Nev.; J. M. Hammer, Eureka, Nev.; Thomas Blanchard, Flora, Ill.; P. Ball, Greenville, Ill.; F. M. Wonser, Tama City, Iowa; W. G. Agnew, Osceola, Iowa; G. F. Witten, Grand Rapids, Wis.; F. A. Haywood, Omro, Wis.; G. B. Whiting, Granville, O.; J. F. Scofield, Painesville, O.; Mrs. Elizabeth Porter, Russellville, Ky.; M. Bodsworth, Edenburg, Ind.; O. H. Woodworth, Columbia, Ind.; J. R. Nolan, Marion, Ind.; F. M. Busby, Lebanon, Ind.; Mrs. E. J. Byland, Rochester, Ind.; Wm. C. E. Thomas, Green Bay, Wis.

THE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE.

The Congressional Centennial Celebration Committee held its first meeting to-day. Judge Kelley, Chairman, was instructed to appear before the Committee on Appropriations, and ask an appropriation for printing stock certificates.

A number of the Centennial Commission arrived here to-day from Philadelphia, and had interviews with Congressmen on the subject of the necessary assistance required from Congress to insure the success of the proposed International Exhibition.

WASHINGTON.

A Field Day in the House Over the Soldiers' Bounty Land Bill.

The Grand Army of the Republic Denounced as a Political Machine.

Probable Resignation of Vice President Colfax at the New Year.

Opposition to the Proposed Abolition of Internal Revenue Assessors.

Proposed Compromise in the Alabama Imbroglio.

About $10,000,000 Increase Expected From Internal Revenue.

Proceedings in Congress Yesterday.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

A LIVELY SCENE IN THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—There was a brisk skirmish on the floor of the House, to-day, on matters arising out of the war, in which the same scene has been so many times before enacted. It was only a little earnestness of language on the part of members, a sort of impulsiveness that creeps out every few days during a session. It is only in anger that members tell the truth about each other, and such scenes as that of to-day are regarded as something piquant and nutritious. The same old Soldiers' Homestead bill was up for consideration. Governor Hawley, of Connecticut, has made his first speech in the House against the bill, and has pounded it so effectually as to leave in it little of life.

Mr. Townsend, of Pennsylvania, had a protest read against the bill signed by General Hartranft and others, in behalf of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. Speer, a Democrat, of Pennsylvania, denounced the Grand Army as a political organization.

Mr. Townsend said it was because the soldiers were Republicans, while the Democrats were rebels. This shell made a fearful explosion.

Mr. Manson, of Indiana, a Brigadier General in the war, rushed to the front, and shaking his fist at Townsend, denounced the statement as a "lie." Several other Democrats, who had been officers in the war, took part in the melee, and employed not less strong

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General Thomas B. Van Buren, the United States Commissioner to the Vienna Exposition, was before the Foreign Affairs Committee today, urging an appropriation of $300,000 to be expended by the Secretary of State to aid American exhibitors in fitting up proper accommodations, conveying articles to and from the two countries, and defraying the expenses of the United States on that occasion. The Committee is favorably disposed, inasmuch as $250,000 was appropriated for the Paris Exposition.

MR. COLFAX.

There is reason to believe, from the statements made by the most intimate and trusted of Mr. Colfax's friends, that he will resign the Vice Presidency of the United States on the 1st of January next to become the editor of the New York *Tribune*, a position which was tendered to him about a week ago. The statement is that he was first offered the position at a salary of $12,000, being $2,000 more than was paid Mr. Greeley, but that he declined till he was finally offered $20,000 a year and a certain interest in the paper. The question then arose as to his position: whether he was to fill the office of Editor-in-Chief in place of Mr. Greeley, or whether he was to act under certain restrictions, the general management of the paper to remain as at present? It is understood that this point has not yet been decided. Mr. Colfax goes to New York on Friday, when it is expected some decision will be reached.

THE ALABAMA TROUBLES.

The Attorney General to-day submitted a compromise to the President, looking to the solution of the political difficulties in Alabama. The Spencer factions, who have been made acquainted with the nature of the document, appear to be in high flutter, although Spencer himself is far from being satisfied. Several Republican Senators have already expressed themselves as unwilling to admit a Senator whose only credentials for admission came from a faction. The Attorney General's opinion will be made public to-morrow. The President, in conversation to-day, said that he did not consider that the Spencer faction stood on tenable grounds, although in whatever action he might take, he should be guided by the desires of what appeared to be the majority of people in Alabama.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

The Senate Naval Committee gave a long hearing to-day to Secretary Robeson, who is very much dissatisfied with the way in which the House passed his bill providing for additional sloops-of-war. He wants the original number of ten restored, and also desires that the building of the vessels be left entirely to his discretion. He says that where he is obliged to let out the contracts to private yards there will be some bidders who cannot do the work either quickly or well, and who, if they are called upon for extra work, will be bringing in claims to Congress for relief. The Committee will hold another session before they can be ready to report the bill.

PROPOSED ABOLITION.

The Senate Finance Committee to-day devoted a long session to the consideration of Commissioner Douglas's bill abolishing the office of Assessor of Internal Revenue. Senators have been so besieged by the officials who stand in fear of decapitation that some of them show a disposition to interpose obstacles in the way of this reform. The Commissioner made the principal argument in behalf of the bill, showing that it not only decreased largely the number of officials, but that it also would facilitate as well as cheapen the collection of revenue. The Amendment was to the bill increasing the number of special agents from twenty-five to fifty. The Commissioner asked that the section making all special taxes provided by law payable by stamps be amended to take effect May 1st, next, the beginning of the new tax year. The Committee having reported the bill, will take it up to-morrow and pass it immediately. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue is now of the opinion that the collections of Internal Revenue for the current year will go $8,000,000 or $10,000,000 beyond his original estimate. This announcement imparts considerable strength to the proposition in Congress to remove all internal taxes except those on liquors and tobacco.

RAILROAD FREIGHTS.

The House Committee on Commerce is generally disposed to enact some legislation this winter which will regulate tolls for freights and passengers on railroads running through several States. Last session, this Committee, after an investigation of the subject, came to the conclusion that railroad companies taxed through passengers and freights at losing prices, and made the losses good by having overcharge in local passenger and freight rates. The bill offered by Mr. Shellabarger, yesterday, relating to this subject, will be taken up by this Committee at its meeting on Thursday, and will undoubtedly be agreed to.

THE CREDIT MOBILIER INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

meets to-morrow. The witnesses summoned are Colonel R. S. McComb, John B. Alley, and J. S. T. Williams, the last two Directors of the Union Pacific Railroad. Speaker Blaine volunteers to go before the Committee and state what he knows about the issue of stock to members of Congress. He was not summoned by the Committee. In view of the fact that Mr. Blaine was charged with having received some of the stock, they will allow him to make a statement. The proceedings are to be kept secret.

SENATOR PATTERSON.

Mr. J. J. Patterson, the Senator-elect from South Carolina, who has, since his election, been arrested on a charge of bribery, hails from Pennsylvania. He was originally editor of the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, General Cameron's home organ. In 1856 he ran for Congress in the Nineteenth District of Pennsylvania and was defeated. During the war he was interested with Cameron in the mail and horse contracts, the exposure of which resulted in Cameron's expulsion from Lincoln's Cabinet. About five years ago he went to South Carolina, and joined Governor Scott and the ring that plundered that State and ruined its credit. Like Scott, he managed to make a large sum of money, and then became ambitious of political honors. Two or three weeks before the Senatorial election in South Carolina, Patterson visited Harrisburg, and was in consultation with General Cameron, his son, Dan Cameron, and several other members of the Pennsylvania Ring. It is stated by prominent Pennsylvanians here, who are said to be familiar with the facts and circumstances, that Cameron raised a large sum of money for his friend and protege, some say as much as $30,000, for the purpose of securing his election to the Senate. At all events, Patterson went to the State capital of South Carolina with some $30,000, and gave out that [illegible] he would spend that amount on his election, among his friends. Patterson's friends say that they [illegible] Elliot and Sawyer. It appears, however, [illegible] to such a degree is ambitious to be [illegible] any fight up a job on Patterson, to use a common [illegible] who in conjunction with some of his negro brethren in the Legislature, with a view to disqualify him for the position. Elliot, so the story goes, advised his colored friends in the Legislature to take Patterson's money and then turn State's evidence against him. Patterson, it is alleged, paid at the rate of five hundred to a thousand dollars each for votes, and, altogether, his election cost him $50,000. As soon as the election was over, the negroes proceeded to carry out the programme as proposed by Elliot, and a dozen of them made affidavit to the effect that they had been bribed. Patterson's arrest followed. A curious circumstance of the election was, that James L. Orr was a warm friend of Patterson. It is stated that Senator Cameron urged upon the President the nomination of Orr for the Russian mission, and that the consideration, so far as Orr was concerned, was that he should help Patterson. The supposition here is that the negro Elliott will, after all, be elected Senator.

RELIEF BILL.

The Senate to-day passed the bill for the relief of Edmund Jussen, of Chicago, arising from the loss of certain warehouse bonds from the distillery of Hass & Powell before the same was destroyed by fire. The bill transfers his indebtedness to the account of his successor in office.

[To the Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The Supreme Court rendered a decision in the case of the United States against Cooke, from the Circuit Court of the Southern District of Ohio. Cooke was indicted for embezzlement of the public funds, while Paymaster in the army. The Court decides that he is liable to be prosecuted, convicted, and punished, and that the thirty-second section of the Crimes act contains only a limitation applicable to the charge, but it cannot be made available by a demurrer to the indictment.

THE NAVY.

The Senate Naval Committee briefly discussed the bill providing for the construction of the new sloops of war, but took no action thereon. It is considered certain, however, that the Committee will recommend the provision for ten vessels instead of six provided in the bill passed by the House.

ARMY MATTERS.

The Superintendent of Mounted Recruiting Service has been directed to prepare and forward all disposable white recruits to Omaha, Neb., for assignment to the Second Cavalry in the Department of the Platte.

By direction of the President, the headquarters of the Military Division of the Atlantic is transferred from Philadelphia to New York City.

SECRETARY DELANO.

Secretary Delano said to-day he was going South under the advice of his physician for rest, and no other reason, and probably he may visit Havana before his return.

CONFIRMATIONS.

The Senate, in Executive session, to-day, confirmed the following nominations: Ward Hunt, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, *vice* Samuel Nelson, resigned; Samuel F. Phillips, Solicitor General of the United States, *vice* B. H. Bristow, resigned. Supervisors of Internal Revenue, W. P. W. Perry, William H. Simmons, Simon T. Powell, Louis M. Foulke, Daniel W. Mann, John M. Hedrick, John McDonald.

Henry A. Newlan, Collector of Internal Revenue, Nebraska; Frederick C. Lord, Assessor of Internal Revenue, Nevada; N. B. Judd, Collector of Customs, Chicago; Robert Henschel, Melter and Refiner in the Assay Office, Boise City, Idaho.

Consuls, Lucius Fairchild, Liverpool; S. W. Dobney, Fayal; Lorenzo Brentano, Dresden. Richard Beardsley to be Agent and Consul General at Alexandria, *vice* George H. Butler, suspended.

Postmasters—Mrs. Phoebe A. Collins, Confleville, Pa.; F. C. Albright, Mason, Mich.; W. H. Aplin, Winona, Mich.; B. F. Bradley, Midland, Mich.; E. P. Royce, Escanaba, Mich.; H. C. Morton, Benton Harbor, Mich.; L. M. Jaquess, Reno, Nev.; J. M. Hammer, Eureka, Nev.; Thomas Blanchard, Flora, Ill.; P. Ball, Greenville, Ill.; F. M. Wonser, Tama City, Iowa; W. G. Agnew, Osceola, Iowa; G. F. Witten, Grand Rapids, Wis.; F. A. Haywood, Omro, Wis.; G. B. Whiting, Granville, O.; J. F. Scofield, Painesville, O.; Mrs. Elizabeth Porter, Russellville, Ky.; M. Bodsworth, Edenburg, Ind.; O. H. Woodworth, Columbia, Ind.; J. R. Nolan, Marion, Ind.; F. M. Busby, Lebanon, Ind.; Mrs. E. J. Byland, Rochester, Ind.; Wm. C. E. Thomas, Green Bay, Wis.

THE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE.

The Congressional Centennial Celebration Committee held its first meeting to-day. Judge Kelley, Chairman, was instructed to appear before the Committee on Appropriations, and ask an appropriation for printing stock certificates.

A number of the Centennial Commission arrived here to-day from Philadelphia, and had interviews with Congressmen on the subject of the necessary assistance required from Congress to insure the success of the proposed International Exhibition

OMAHA.

Important Railway Developments in Nebraska.

Omaha as a Railroad Centre--Her Business Growth--A Bit of Retrospect.

Special Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 9, 1872.

The last timbers are now being laid on the railroad-bridge over the Platte, and trains will cross it on the 16th inst. This supplies a missing link, and gives us a direct connection with the South Platte country, and the great Southwest. The Burlington & Missouri, in Nebraska, has bought the Omaha & Southwestern, and this bridge is the first fruit of the movement. Southwestern trains will, in a few days, be running to and from the Union Pacific depot. About two miles of new track was necessary to accomplish this, and a large force is at work laying it.

The Land Department of the Burlington & Missouri will be moved to this city Jan. 1, from Burlington. This Company has selected, and is preparing for sale, large tracts of land lying north of the Union Pacific grant.

The construction of a large Union depot, to be used by the Union Pacific, the Burlington & Missouri, and other railroads centering here, will be commenced early in the spring. It will be modelled after the Cleveland depot, which cost $800,000.

Up to this time, the Union Pacific has run its trains to the west end of the great Missouri Bridge, and there stopped. The four Iowa roads have run to the east end of the bridge, and refused to come further. The Omaha Bridge Transfer has been operated between them,—a little railroad by itself. This cannot continue. The trade of Nebraska, and the lion's share of the Union Pacific business, which, owing to its overland Pacific-coast connections, is immense, will be given to the first eastern road that runs its trains to Omaha to receive it. This is why the Burlington & Missouri bought the Omaha & Southwestern. It will cross at Plattsemouth, and by that route be running its trains from the Union Pacific depot, in this city, on the 16th inst.

This connection of the Burlington & Missouri with Omaha would of itself break up the "pool," and compel the Iowa roads to cross the bridge. But there is said to be another reason. Horace F. Clarke, President of the Union Pacific, now controls the Chicago & Northwestern. It will, after Jan. 1, be used as a link in the great chain extending from San Francisco, through Omaha and Chicago, to New York. The trains of the Chicago & Northwestern will run to and from the Great Union depot to be built next year in this city, and that Company will contribute to the cost of its erection.

A RAILROAD CENTRE.

Nebraska is fast attracting settlers to her lands. One hundred thousand have come this year, and she has 1,800 miles of railroad in actual operation. These are facts which have an important bearing on our future. Men do not pioneer in these days as they once did; they move by colonies, taking the church, school, and neighborhood along with them. There are prosperous and thriving farming communities in more than one county in this State where, a year and a half ago, the prairie solitude was unbroken, save here and there by a settler's cabin. Railroads have worked this great change, and they are doing more to-day than ever before.

THE UNION PACIFIC

traverses the great Platte Valley, and in its 12,600,000 acres land grant it received from the Government, one of the finest agricultural regions in the world. The land department is making the facts known, and "land for the landless" is becoming a motto with meaning in it, both in our older States and in Europe. Every west-bound car that leaves Omaha takes out land hunters, and the number of those who come seeking homes is so great that a colony train with cheap rates and frequent stoppages has been provided.

THE OMAHA & NORTHWESTERN

follows the Elkhorn Valley, a beautiful country, and is designed to tap the Northern Pacific and the extensive pine regions of Minnesota. Forty miles are now in operation, and the road is being pushed vigorously forward.

THE OMAHA & SOUTHWESTERN

above referred to was started at the same time, and was designed to open the South Platte region, and the southern portion of Nebraska, to the trade of this city. Omaha contributed liberally to both these enterprises at a time of business depression, because our influential men thought they saw in these great projects the means of concentrating here the trade of a State that is soon to become a wealthy and prosperous agricultural region. They have not been disappointed, and enough is now known to assure us that the future is full of promise.

A BIT OF RETROSPECT.

In the spring of 1854, a company of exploring pioneers arrived at the old Mormon ford—Miamiopolis (now Council Bluffs), on opposite side of the Missouri. They took a look at it, and would form the elevated plateau advantageous site for a town. River, and they waded through the tall and tangled masses of grass which covered the Iowa bottoms, and crossed in a leaky cottonwood boat. They found the landing on the Nebraska side so difficult that it was necessary to get out of their frail craft a mile and some distance, but when they reached the plain which had first attracted their attention they were enthusiastic over the prospect and the natural beauty of the situation. The land here rises, first in one abrupt bluff which has natural openings as if meant for roadways, and above that and receding from the river each plateau is reached by a gentle ascent, each stage of which has its one which precedes it, until the last commands a magnificent and sweeping view of the great Missouri Valley and many-thousand acres of undulating prairie and forest lands. The line of vision to the westward is bounded by the beautiful and undulating Elkhorn County.

Our pioneers were delighted with their discovery, and, not heeding the obstacles in their way, commenced at once to stake off a town. The Indians, the explorers, to whom the place owes its existence, are Dr. Enos Lowe, an honored citizen, who now resides in an elegant mansion on the site which he that day selected; Jesse Lowe, his brother, since deceased; Jesse Williams, Joseph H. D. Street, and William D. Brown. They returned to their camp on the Iowa side wet and hungry, but very enthusiastic. It is well they were so, for the difficulties which they had to encounter were such as called for much labor, liberal expenditures, and time and patience. Nebraska was then a Territory, almost totally uninhabited by white men, the titles to the lands were held by Indians, and no portion of them could be had either by purchase or settlement. All that could be done by the projectors of the future city was to appease the Indians by a judicious distribution of presents, and await the time when the General Government should negotiate its ordinary "treaty," and open the lands to settlement. Happily, the first of these events soon occurred. The treaty between the United States and the Omahas, for the purchase of this part of Nebraska, was ratified in April, 1854, but it was not until May, 1860, that the patent for the town site was issued.

THE FIRST ACHIEVEMENT.

At that time the California travel was passing Omaha (in wagons of course) through Florence, six miles above, and Bellevue, twelve miles below. How could these streams of pioneer commerce be diverted to the new paper city? Before an effort to do this could be made with the least show of success, it was necessary to provide a superior crossing at a point which was by nature inferior and more difficult than either of its rivals. With this view an expensive wagon road was constructed across the low bottom on the Iowa side, and a new steam ferry-boat was brought from Alton, Ill., to take the place of the rickety and leaky cottonwood craft. This done, messengers were sent out to meet the California travellers, and inform them of the great advantages of the new crossing. This liberal and plucky policy was rewarded with complete success, and the profits of the trade which followed it formed the foundation for our largest and most substantial wholesale houses of to-day.

BUSINESS GROWTH.

Since that time the growth of Omaha has not been uniform, owing to the causes which frequently affect the development of Western cities. When the Union Pacific was building, immense sums were disbursed here, and the town advanced with magical rapidity. After that came a lull. The city had grown too fast to satisfy the immediate wants of the surrounding country. But the pause was only brief, for the reason that not only in Nebraska, but far to the Westward, there has been an increasing stream of population, and the development of natural resources of this vast region has gone steadily forward.

Two years ago the trade of Omaha had begun to feel the influence of the new settlements more sensibly than before, and her business is now in a prosperous and satisfactory condition. The following comparative statement is taken from the last report of the Government Comptroller, and it is believed that the new report, to be made this winter, will not materially alter the proportion. The following were the amounts of deposits in the banks of the cities named at the close of business on Oct. 8, 1870.

DEPOSITS.

Buffalo, N. Y.	$2,170,928.58
Milwaukee, Wis.	3,126,356.14
Indianapolis, Ind.	1,676,673.89
St. Paul, Minn.	1,439,394.14
Wheeling, W. Va.	1,367,703.75
Davenport, Iowa	800,082.85
Kansas City, Mo.	720,489.04
Leavenworth, Kan.	699,034.02
Louisville, Ky.	687,838.83
St. Joseph, Mo.	626,716.25
Council Bluffs, Iowa	311,026.37
Omaha, Neb.	2,039,711.67
St. Joseph, Kansas City, and Council Bluffs combined	1,580,285.56

Other indices of commercial prosperity of Omaha may be seen in numerous substantial and elegant private residences, a magnificent High School building, the Grand Central Hotel (not quite finished), which each cost $300,000, and other school houses completed this year, which, it is believed, are not surpassed by any similar structures in the country. H. S.

FROM CHICAGO TO DENVER.

Reminiscences and Incidents.

Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

PUEBLO, Col., Dec. 4, 1872.

Leaving your snow-clad city on the night of Dec. 1, I awoke to find myself beyond the limits of the recent storm, which seems not to have visited the western part of your State. Taking a late breakfast at Quincy, we are soon on our way across the Mississippi River, which, at the present time, is at a very low stage, sand-bars being visible all along the shore. The main channel is still open, and boats are passing freely up and down the river.

As we speed along the eastern portion of the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad, the writer's memory is carried back to the early scenes of our late war, when the Nineteenth Illinois were sent to guard a portion of this line of road, to prevent its being cut by Jeff. Thompson's bushwhackers. From Quincy we went in two detachments *via.* Hannibal and the short-cut, to Palmyra, which, for a time, was our headquarters. Here Lieutenant Charles Shipley, one of the original Ellsworth Zouaves, and Lieutenant Lambason, with their Glee Club, culled from the regiment, serenaded the pretty girls of the town, some of whom were decidedly "secesh" in their sentiment. From this place we had our first marching experience in going to Emerson, eighteen miles distant, to break up a recruiting station of Jeff. Thompson's. A short distance from the town, we discovered retreating horsemen, and deployed on either side of the road. We found a keg of powder in one of the corn-fields, which was considered a great trophy. Upon reaching the town, we found the enemy had flown. After searching for secreted arms, and demolishing a flag-staff, which was carried off in small pieces by the boys as mementos, we commenced our weary march back to Palmyra. Being inexperienced, and not entirely prepared for it, the men soon gave out and straggled, and then pressed into service such horses as came in our way to carry them back to camp, for which they were stigmatized by General Pope as a set of horse-thieves.

This road, as well as this section of Missouri, has improved since the war. As we pass along through the towns, I noticed the flags at half-mast for the death of Horace Greeley. At Clarence the staff was surmounted by a large white hat, appropriately draped in mourning.

We arrive at Kansas City too late to get a view of the city. An hour later, we are on our way through Kansas, on the Kansas Pacific Railway, comfortably sleeping in a Pullman palace car,—a luxury to be appreciated in this Western country.

Shortly after daybreak we stopped at Salina for breakfast. We find we are fairly started on the Plains, or what was formerly known as the Great American Desert. Habitations almost entirely disappear, except a few at the stations of the road. Fences are unknown, only as used by the railroad company as protection against snow. The weather, which was quite pleasant on the first day, was exceedingly so on the second. There were no signs of snow, and, had it not been for the scared appearance of the vegetation, it would have seemed like a mild spring morning.

At Ellsworth, the next station of importance, the Company has erected a round house and machine shops, which give the place a very lively appearance. The houses and stores are of wood, painted white, and look very neat.

At Ellis, the Company has erected an eating-house and depot which would be an ornament to any town. The building is of a peculiar kind of stone found in this vicinity, which is so soft when quarried as to be easily sawed, in this case into blocks about 20 inches square. It hardens with exposure, and makes a very fine appearance. From this stone, your city, has a house which Nature has a farm near window-caps of which been able to raise excel- The keeper of stables.

By, and, at many of the stations along the road, stacks of, and cars loaded with, dry buffalo bones, which, I am told, make quite a business in the East. They are gathered from the Plains, and shipped East, where they are manufactured into a fertilizer.

We now come to what is called the buffalo country, but "nary" a buffalo did we see. The railroad employes say they have all gone south, to the Arkansas Valley. This is owing partly to the want of grass, which has been burnt off in large quantities for miles on each side of the track. The stations now grow smaller in size, being only, in some cases, a single shanty for a depot and telegraph station.

At Wallace we stop for supper. The shades of night being now upon us, we turn to the lighted interior of our Pullman car, and, from Mr. J. A. Reed, of Chicago, I gain many interesting facts. He has twice crossed the Plains by stage, in 1860 and 1868, and now, for the first time, is crossing by rail. He was the pioneer of railroad men at Denver, and circulated the first railroad advertising matter at that place. He, with others, canvassed the probabilities of a railroad to that place, but never supposed at that time that it would be in his day.

In the morning I awoke to see one of the grandest sights it has ever fallen to my lot to witness: the long range of mountains, with the peaks of Long's, Gray's, and Pike's overreaching all the rest, and the snow-capped summits in the background,—the sun shining on them with a dazzling light. It is a spectacle I shall always remember. C.

A Plucky Woman.

FORT DAVIS, TEXAS, Nov. 21, 1872.

To the Editor of the New York Herald:

Four times within as many months efforts have been made by some black-hearted rascals at this post to effect an entrance into the sleeping apartments of the officers of the garrison during the absence of the officers on their several duties.

A diabolical attempt was but a few nights ago made upon the family of one of the civilian employes of the Government at the post. A feeling of dread apprehension and insecurity has for some time prevailed among the officers and their families, except a few who pooh-poohed and said that it was all imagination, but by the heroism of Mrs. Kendall, wife of First Lieutenant F. A. Kendall, Tenth Infantry, one of the devils at last has learned that there is a God in Israel, and the doubters are silenced.

About 2 o'clock this morning Mrs. Kendall, whose husband is temporarily absent on duty, was awakened by a noise as of some one breaking in the sash of a window opening from her sleeping apartment upon the porch in the rear. She promptly awoke her companion, a young lady, and daughter of one of the officers of the garrison, and asked in a loud voice, "Who's there?" Receiving no reply, the plucky little lady took her revolver and listened.

Bits of broken glass continued falling on the floor, convincing her that the fiend was persisting in his efforts to enter the room; and then, with the consciousness that on her depended the safety of herself and companion from a fate worse than death, and, doubtless, their lives and those of her three little children, she called several times, "Who's there?" and, receiving no reply, she stepped to the window and, aiming over the bed occupied by her little ones, at a head just being thrust through the broken sash, fired. She heard instantly after the fall of a heavy body on the porch and a stifled groan.

Being awakened by the shot, I, in company with others, hurried to the spot and soon a squad of the guard were on hand with preparations for removing the carcass. An examination proved him to be Corporal Taliaferro, a hideous negro belonging to Company I, Ninth United States Calvary, one of the companies composing the garrison.

The bullet had penetrated his skull, and must have killed him instantly.

E. S., First Lieutenant,
Twenty-Fifth United States Calvary.

OUR HARBOR.

The Work of Dredging and Docking---Our Present Dockage Facilities.

What Has Been Done on the Lake-Front and at Calumet--Bridges.

The harbor accommodations of Chicago have always been small, in proportion to the demand for room, and dredging and docking were carried forward rapidly for several years previous to the fire. Up to June 30th, 1871, a total of about 17 miles of dockage had been built, of which 14¼ miles were then in use; nearly 3 miles of that first built having been renewed. A vast amount of dredging had also been done previous to the fire, chiefly at the mouth of the harbor, and in the North Branch. In 1863 the North Chicago Docking Company, commenced to put down a line of piling and crib-work, north of the harbor, but it was swept away by the waves, and the work was abandoned till 1867, when it was again proceeded with, and was nearly finished when the Great Fire swept over our city, and again suspended operations. The work has since been undertaken anew, and will be completed next season. Another dock extension was begun in 1870, near the mouth of the river to the south; and an appropriation of $100,000, had been made by Congress, which was expended during the same year, leaving the extension still unfinished, but preparations are being made for finishing the work next spring. A breakwater, 900 feet long, was built in 1871, running eastwardly from the south pier, and extending out into the lake as far as the north pier, leaving a passage of 500 feet wide, between them for entrance into the harbor. From the eastern end of this breakwater, extends another line, 3,400 feet long, which will soon be extended to 4,000 feet, connecting with another line running 3,400 feet westward, to the breakwater of the Illinois Central Railroad.

Another great improvement is in progress in this vicinity, in the Calumet Harbor, seven miles south of the city. Congress appropriated $50,000 in 1870 for the improvement of the channel and the construction of piers, and the money was expended during that year in the building of two piers and deepening the channel. The harbor was also dredged out to a depth of ten feet. It is estimated that these projected improvements will cost the Government about $200,000. Since the fire the Government has expended $50,000 in docking, dredging, and building piers, and the company has expended about as much more, having built some 3,000 feet of pier and dockage on the north side, and 1,000 feet on the south side. The Harbor is now 300 feet wide and 10 feet deep. Improvements will be continued rapidly next season.

The operations since the fire at this port have consisted in the extension of the breakwater to the south a distance of 800 feet, and the construction of a return at the north end 300 feet in length. There has been constructed since the fire 2,250 feet of breakwater, including superstructures very nearly finished, at a cost of $88.88 per lineal foot. This also includes the protection of the north end of the works by clumps of piles. So that the whole work may be safely estimated at $100 per foot, including covering. It is proposed, with the present appropriation of $30,000, to continue the extension of the breakwater, and, if necessary for the protection of the harbor, to add 100 feet to the return at the north end of the breakwater, as originally designed. It is estimated that 800 feet will be added to the breakwater during the present fiscal year, making a total length of 3,050, and leaving 950 feet to complete the breakwater according to the plan.

In addition to this, the plan adopted contemplated the construction of a pier connecting the south end of the breakwater with the shore, at a cost of $167,418.38, and adopting this estimate, a further appropriation of $267,000 will be required, or a total sum of $567,000, which, owing to the price of material and labor, is much less than the original estimate.

Major D. C. Houston, United States Engineer at this port, gives the following plan, which, if adopted, will curtail the expenses somewhat, and at the same time the interests of this harbor will be better subserved. He says: "Instead of constructing the sc[illegible] prolonged the funds should [illegible] it would afford all the breakwa[illegible]uired, and if the lake front is used for the construction of wharves and slips, as contemplated, in the constitution of the harbor, the necessities of the future will require this extension. In the plan now under consideration the south pier would interfere with the navigation of vessels in the lake front. If the lake front is used at all for such purposes it will not stop at the present limits of the proposed harbor, but will extend as the requirements of commerce require." He further says that an appropriation of $200,000 can be advantageously expended in repairing and extending during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873.

Since the fire, dredging to the amount of 600,000 cubic yards has also been done in the river and its branches, chiefly from the old sand-bar inside of the harbor, which interferes with its usefulness as a roadstead, although it is a source of considerable profit to the owners of dredges, who are removing great quantities of it for building purposes.

During the last year, over eight miles of new dockage has been built at this port, and about three miles of repairing done on docks partially destroyed by the fire, at a total cost of nearly $600,000.

In September, 1871, no less than twenty-seven bridges were standing in Chicago erected at a cost of from $20,000 to $48,000 each, besides six railroad bridges, which had been erected at an average cost of $30,000.

When the fire visited us it took away eight of our principal bridges, namely, Chicago avenue, Wells, Clark, State, Rush, Adams, Van Buren, and Polk street bridges. To-day they are all replaced at a greater cost, and are better structures in all respects than those burned down. The cost of the separate bridges fully completed is as follows: Chicago avenue, $20,350; Wells, $48,484.60; Clark, $32,000; State, $100,000; Rush, $20,000; Adams, $45,000; Van Buren, $13,200.70; Polk, $23,000. Making the total amount expended on bridges $302,535.30.

Mr. Greeley's Daughters—The New York Tribune's Statement of Their Wishes.

From the New York Tribune, Dec. 6.

With a prompt and grateful, and, under the circumstances, we may say a chivalrous generosity of which we can hardly trust ourselves to speak, it has been proposed by a liberal money subscription to show to the daughters of Mr. Greeley the public affection and respect accorded to the memory of their lamented father. This thoughtful proposition has been made in the *Herald* newspaper, and the proprietor of that journal has tendered a sum nominally large, but understood to be considerably less than Mr. Bennett really desires to give. We have also received at this office letters offering assistance great or comparatively small, according to the means of the writers. Yesterday further subscriptions were announced; and this fact obliges us to say that the Misses Greeley are unwilling under any circumstances, that the plan of a subscription for their personal benefit should be adhered to. In the great sorrow which has fallen upon them so heavily, they are of course in no position to investigate their affairs. It will be a work of time to determine the condition of Mr. Greeley's estate; but however it may have been impaired by a liberality perhaps too great, by a loan of his own credit to those who proved unworthy of it, or by an overweening confidence in men's promises, there is, it is probable, enough remaining to quiet all these generous apprehensions of the community. And even if the provisions were less, we must be allowed to say that the Misses Greeley are in the hands of immediate friends who will care for them with assiduous fidelity and unremitting tenderness, and who will recognize and repay the debt of grateful honor due to their father—a debt which it is strongly felt can never be adequately discharged. A sympathizing public may confide in our assurance that the young ladies are now the wards of those who will be glad, as well as able, to care for their every want and comfort, and to see to it that the death of their father shall make no change in their methods of life and their resources.

We announce the determination of these ladies at their own urgent request. While they are anxious not to be regarded as wanting in a grateful sense of the great kindness which prompted the subscription, they must be allowed to take the kindly will for the kindly deed. With a thousand heartfelt thanks, the proffered bounty is declined. There may be other methods of exhibiting the public liberality, methods by which the memory of Mr. Greeley may be perpetuated, and which would be grateful, not merely to his children, but to the whole broad circle of his admirers. If those should commend themselves to the public approbation, they would certainly be regarded by his daughters with a gratitude equal to that which so much kindness has already inspired.

KANSAS.

The United States Senatorship—Pomeroy to Be Re-elected—The State Printing—What it Costs, and How it Is to Be Reformed.

Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

JUNCTION CITY, Kan., Dec. 5, 1872.

The Indian summer of political weather is upon us. Everybody is mild and serene. The atmosphere is hazy, and we all see as through a glass darkly. Not very long since, many were able to clearly perceive that Mr. X was totally unfit for Senatorial honors, and Mr. Z was not to be thought of as a resident of Washington. But the canvass is over, the dominant party is stronger than ever, and the need of reform is not so keenly felt. The parties aforementioned are of "incalculable benefit to the Nation and State," to quote the words of a Washington lickspittle. A great statesman in the southern portion of the State exhausts three columns of small pica in giving the Senatorial question a quietus, and winds up with the suggestive remark that he has no especial reason to urge why Senator Pomeroy should not be re-elected. And so it goes. A short time ago, a great show of reform was made. Our present bald-headed Senator was to be summarily ousted. He was undoubtedly a disgrace to the State. Now the election is over, and a Republican majority of 30,000 and upwards has reassured the fearful ones. So Senator Pomeroy is at once transformed into a paragon of honesty. Some of the newspapers are openly favoring him; they have already been on the scales, and have received their value. Others are silent; they are in the process of weighing. The "Jellyfish of the Neosho" said last winter that the *Bed-Blanket* never had favored, and never should favor, the return to the Senate of Senator Pomeroy. In a few months, the Senator made a tour of the State for Grant (?), and contributed the usual $50 or $100 to the support of Republican principles through the *Blanket;* and now the spineless being says he supports the Senator because he believes him to be an honest man. And the cheap men all over the State are doing the same. Senator Pomeroy will be re-elected. Then there will be a tremendous howl by the newspapers and men all over the State who helped to elect him. The annual Investigation Committee will be appointed; the usual, perhaps more than the usual, number of perjuries will be committed, and everything will be lovely. The bird of golden-egg fame will take its rations at a dizzy elevation, and six years hence will again appease uneasy consciences, and decide undecided judgments by freely disgorging. In view of this, let Bub Senator Pomeroy the goose that lays the golden eggs for needy but honest, Kansas newspaper men and legislators.

I believe it is a fact that Kansas never has been, and, until things change, never can be, represented in Congress by a capable, honest man. A knave or a fool is the alternative.

The office of State Printer is now attracting some attention. Four years ago, an amendment to the State Constitution was voted upon, creating the office of State Printer, who was to be paid for doing the State Printing at a certain, fixed price. Immense sums were to be saved to the people by this. Well, it would seem that not much more than a million or two could be saved in this way when the State printing under the old system (Sharpless') cost annually but $125,000 or $150,000. I suppose that the amount of work required by the State may have increased 25 per cent since the new law went into operation; yet, in the four years, the State has paid over $100,000 for printing. We have not entirely lost our hope of saving the million or two annually, but it is reckoned so far into the future that it does not actually seem to grow heavier. So here is another opportunity for reform, and it is going to be improved. For, in Kansas, wherever there is a ghost of a chance that a man may be required to sacrifice his love of personal gain to the public good for the trifle of $25,000 or so a year, there are bushels of Spartans ready to fatten everything else. Like the voice of the gentle coyote when bacon is near, but out of reach, the melodious howl of the patriot is heard from the Missouri River to the American Desert. A [illegible] is to have Printing [illegible] entirely, lasting out to [illegible] order. Of course he will be an incorruptible man, and no bribing contractors need apply with propositions of per cent division.

T. A.

WELSH CHURCHES.

To the Editor of the Chicago Tribune:

SIR: I noticed a paragraph in this morning's issue where you state that the Welsh Congregational Church, located in Davy's Building, corner of Green and West Madison streets, is the only Welsh religious society in the city, and was organized a year ago. As the gentleman who furnished you the item has not resided here six months, we may be permitted to refer to the columns of THE TRIBUNE for the past twenty years as evidence of the existence of the Welsh Presbyterian Church, formerly located on Desplaines street, and now on the corner of Monroe and Sangamon streets, with a branch in South Chicago or Bridgeport, and, you may add, the only Welsh church having its own church edifice.

WELSHMAN.

CHICAGO, Dec. 10, 1872.

The Mayor and Common Council.

Translated from the Staats-Zeitung, Dec. 11.

The list of standing Committees appointed by Mayor Medill for the Common Council is calculated to excite not only surprise but apprehension among the German Republicans. If a Know-Nothing or a temperance fanatic had had the appointing of these Committees, he could scarcely have arranged them otherwise than as Mr. Medill has done it. That he has not named one of the oldest, most experienced, and most capable Aldermen (Schaffner) as the Chairman of a single Committee, is a direct insult. It is in vain that any other explanation for this is sought than that Schaffner is a thorn in the eyes of the temperance "*mucker.*" In the Committees on License and Police the majority has been accorded to the champions of the Sunday law. Mr. Medill seems to have been careful to make the Council coadjutors of Washburn's against the Board of Police Commissioners. Among all the German members of the Council, only one (Schintz) has been appointed Chairman of a Committee,—and that a very insignificant one,—on Wharfing Privileges. Does it not look as though Mr. Medill wishes to consider the Germans in disgrace?

In the art and manner in which Mr. Medill received the first deputation of the Sunday fanatics, he understood how to create the impression that he held really liberal sentiments, and was not favorable to the obsolete city ordinances; as, in its time, he had denounced the Fugitive Slave law, although it was a law of the land. He has improved every opportunity to make the people believe that he would enforce a law, which he held as obsolete and outrageous, only in so far as his oath of office would compel him to do it. But he has dropped the mask in the appointment of the Council Committees. Here he was forced to show his colors, and he has done so by taking his place among the Sunday fanatics. His oath of office did not compel him to do this. He has voluntarily placed himself in opposition to the sentiments represented by the German members of the Common Council.

For the rest, the Committees of the Common Council are not the Common Council itself. The Council can reject the propositions of these Committees as well as approve them, and it will hopefully do this in all cases where Mr. Medill's packed Committees show themselves only the ready instruments of a clique, which is determined to disturb the friendly relations which have existed for years among the various elements of our population.

—George W. Batterton of Deer Lodge City, Montana, formerly of Platte County, Mo., gives glowing accounts of the resources and agricultural wealth of Montana, and among other things, tells of the following marvellous yield of the staples named per acre, which took the first premium at the recent State fair of Montana: One acre onions, 938¼ bushels; one acre potatoes, 619 bushels; one acre oats, 101 bushels; one acre of wheat, 102 bushels. Of course this was an extraordinary case, but Mr. Batterton says the productiveness of the country is wonderful.

—The season's operations at the salmon breeding establishment at Bucksport, Me., have been remarkably successful. The work of taking spawn has now closed, and a million and a half of eggs lie in the hatching troughs.

SAN FRANCISCO.

Octave Pavy, the World-Be Arctic Explorer--Failure of His Scheme.

Subsidence of the Gem-Excitement--The Family of the Late Colonel Evans--Joaquin Miller's Wife.

Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 2, 1872.

People who have invested cash and belief in M. OCTAVE PAVY

will regret to hear that he is stranded in this metropolis, and is unlikely to carry out his cherished project of visiting the North Pole via Behring's Straits. The young scientist was born at New Orleans in 1844. His mother, who died eighteen months since, was an American lady of culture and refinement, and his father was a French gentleman of liberal education and high social standing. Four years after the birth of Octave, the family removed to Paris, and there resided until the death of the mother, when father and son returned to New Orleans, and made it their home. Octave was a close student in youth, became an enthusiast in the natural sciences as he advanced in years, passed several rigid examinations in the College of Napoleon, peered into the mysteries of medicine for six years, and, during brief respites from the technicalities of student-life, investigated the noted glacial formations of the Alps, and made astronomical and meteorological observations. Several years ago, he became interested in the Polar Sea question, and at once applied himself to the study of Arctic discoveries in all their bearings. Having arrived at the conclusion that an open Polar Sea existed, and that it could only be approached *via* Behring's Straits, he came to the United States two years since for the purpose of interviewing the veteran explorers of the North, and obtaining practical testimony calculated to aid him in fitting out an expedition from this side of America. He returned to France during the Franco-German war, and, in the Breton department, raised and organized *La Guerilla Noire*, or the Black Guerrillas,—a free corps, acting perfectly independent of any *corps d'armee*, and following the system of guerrilla warfare which was so prevalent among the Texans in the late American civil war. At the close of the conflict, M. Pavy again applied himself to the study of Arctic discoveries, also contributing editorials to the press of Europe and America. Permits were procured from the authorities at Washington; in New York City, was the recipient, the usual, perhaps more than the usual, number of perjuries will be committed, and everything will be lovely. The bird of golden-egg fame will take its rations at a dizzy elevation, and six years hence will again appease uneasy consciences, and decide undecided judgments by freely disgorging. In view of this, let Bub Senator Pomeroy the goose that lays the golden eggs for needy but honest, Kansas newspaper men and legislators.

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conferring on me the degree of Doctor of Laws by Harvard University, is just received. Permit me to thank the Faculty of Harvard, through you, for this mark of their approval of my efforts to serve our beloved country, both in time of war and in time of peace. It will be my effort to continue to deserve that confidence.

Be assured that I shall ever hold in high esteem the parchment and your letter accompanying it as marked testimonials of that approval. With great respect, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT.

OBITUARY.

Samuel N. Pike.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.

To the Editor of the Cincinnati Commercial:

I was present at Mr. S. N. Pike's death to-night. He died of his business office, 22 Bridge street, at half-past 6, of apoplexy. He was well this morning, but began to feel unwell this afternoon, complaining of headache, which ultimated in an apoplectic fit. He remained almost unconscious until he died. His remains have been taken to his residence on Fifth avenue and Forty-ninth street, where they are now surrounded by his grief-stricken family. It is thought by friends and physicians that his death was hastened by the immense business transactions which he has been engaged in lately. He was about foreclosing a mortgage of $300,000 against the Opera House property, which he sold to Fisk & Gould for $500,000 or $600,000 being due in interest money. He had also just sold a large tract of New Jersey land to the railroad companies for $300,000. These immense transactions, with large operations in Mexico now being conducted by Dr. Nephagyi, have completely engrossed his mind for several days. His sudden death is a great shock to the business community.

ELI PERKINS.

From Landy's "Cincinnati, Past and Present."

Samuel N. Pike was born in the city of New York in the year 1822. He was of Hebrew extraction, but in religion, as in all other matters, his views were enlarged and liberal. He arrived in Cincinnati on the 4th of July, 1844, and was so pleased with the appearance of the city that he concluded to remain and try his fortunes in this locality. With this intention he opened a dry goods establishment in the Hopple Building, on Third street, from whence he afterward removed to Pearl street; but the fancy dry goods business, in which he had embarked, being then a new enterprise in Cincinnati, was not profitable, and the speculation proved disastrous.

About this time he married the daughter of Judge Miller. This was in the year 1846, and following this event, he closed his business on Pearl street, and purchased from Mr. McDonald a grocery and rectifying establishment at the foot of Main street. This purchase was effected with the result above recorded from the wreck of his dry goods, amounting to about five thousand dollars. His grocery stock being limited, he obtained a credit of $5,000 more, and so embarked in this new speculation on the first day of January, 1847.

In the year 1848 he purchased a warehouse from R. W. Lee, situated upon the canal, where he was fortunate in his speculations, and in the rectifying of whiskey, having obtained a reputation for his "Magnolia" brand unparalleled in the history of the trade. He was successful in every enterprise, and when the Swedish Nightingale, Jenny Lind, visited Cincinnati, after closely attending her concerts, he became so infatuated with her songs, and such an enthusiast in the divine art, that he determined, when able, to build up an edifice in Cincinnati of which its citizens might proudly boast as worthy the most distinguished artists of Europe or America.

The Opera House on Fourth street, between Vine and Walnut, was commenced in the year 1867, in such an unostentatious manner that but few knew the purpose for which it was intended. The work proceeded until the summer of that year, which will be remembered as the period of a great mercantile panic. At this time but two stories of the building were completed, while the means of the founder were scattered all over the country. Operations began to wear a gloomy appearance; his banker declined giving him credit; his friends were alarmed, and expressed the opinion that the projected Opera House would eventuate in his ruin. To save his business, he suspended the work thereon, and the click of masonry was for the time hushed.

The unfinished walls appeared like the monument of his folly. Days passed into weeks, and weeks into months, and people, as they passed, looked grave and pr

...sident Knickerbocker Life Ins. Co.; Andr...
..President Guardian Life; James A. Tal...
...retary Merchants' Life; Fred. Schwenck...
...President Germania Life Ins. Co.; Geo...
...atterlee, President Eclectic Life Ins. C...
...Morse, Vice President Commonwealth L...
...rance Co.; James H. Frothingham, Pre...
...World Mutual Life Ins. Co.; Charles ...
...gan, President Excelsior Life Ins. C...
...ard A. Jones, President of the Nation...
...Ins. Co.; C. W. Bouck, President Bro...
...Life Ins. Co.

GENTLEMEN: We are in receipt of your fav... the 4th inst., asking our opinion in regard ... reduction of premiums to be charged for li... rances by the Mutual Life Insurance Co... ...of New York, as set forth in the publish... ...r of its Actuary, Professor Bartlett, ...ch our attention is especially directed. ... e have examined that circular with care; ... ...ose meaning is not clear, while some of ... ...ements seem inaccurate. ... is gravely proposed to reduce the cost of li... ...rance by reducing the rates of premiu... ...the Actuary of that Company, of all ... ...t to know that in a Mutual company ... to the insured can only be reduced by ... ...ng the working expenses. For the premiu... ...r as it is found to exceed the actual cost ... ...rned to the insured, with interest from ye... ...ear. ...utual rates are designedly, and certai... ...ht to be, higher than the probable cost ... ...es forms the capital, the balance-wheel ... ...nnial reservoir which exalts contingency ... ...ertainty. This has been most abundan... ...nstrated in the history of the "Mutual Life ... ...f. ...he language of Professor Bartlett's letter ... ...e inaccurate when it speaks of reducing ... ...gin of the premiums from 40 per cent to ... ...may have misled many, as it has puzzled ... ...in only one of the present premium colum... ...e margin as high as 40 per cent, and ... ...e it is only 21 per cent; so that only a few ... ...margins are reduced to the extent he me... ...s. 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That existing policy-holders may have ... ...ion either to leave their policies undisturbed ... ...ay their old rates, receiving, if coun... ...ir proportional dividends and reversionary ... ...dits, or to take out new policies, with the ... ...sting credits added, and pay the new rat... ...responding to their then present age, pro... ...ed they subject themselves to a new ... ...amination, and are pronounced assurable." ...t is difficult to properly characterize its term... ...t we are quite sure that no intelligent presen... ...olicy-holder will care to accept the second o... ...it affords, as he would thereby forfeit all h... ...re in the present reserves except as to di... ...ds. ...s to the general plan, it is a virtual abandon... ...nt of those cardinal principles of securi... ...d equity upon which the claims of the Mutu... ...e Insurance Company to the confidence of i... ...olicy-holders and of the community have re... ...ted to the insured, with interest from ye... ...ear. ...utual rates are designedly, and certai... ...ht to be, higher than the probable cost ... ...es forms the capital, the balance-wheel ... ...nnial reservoir which exalts contingency ... ...ertainty. 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TO-DAY'S AMUSEMENTS.

AIKEN'S THEATRE—Wabash avenue, corner of Congress street. Engagement of Lawrence Barrett. "Hamlet."

McVICKER'S THEATRE—Madison street, between State and Dearborn. Engagement of Miss Jane Coombe. "London Assurance."

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Halsted street, south of Madison. The Lydia Thompson Troupe. "Blue Beard."

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE—Randolph street, between Clark and LaSalle. New Comedy Company. "Partners for Life." Operatic Bagatelle.

MYERS' OPERA HOUSE—Monroe street, between State and Dearborn. Arlington, Cotton & Kemble's Minstrel and Burlesque Troupe.

GLOBE THEATRE—Desplaines street, between Madison and Washington. The Lotta Ellis Ballad Opera Company.

NIXON'S AMPHITHEATER—Clinton street, between Washington and Randolph. Leo Hudson as "Mazeppa."

BUSINESS NOTICES.

BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYE. THIS SPLENDID hair dye is the best in the world. The only true and perfect dye. Harmless, reliable, and instantaneous; no disappointment; no unpleasant odor. Remedies the ill effects of bad dyes and washes. Produces immediately a superb black or natural brown, and leaves the hair clean, soft, and beautiful. The genuine, signed W. A. Batchelor. Sold by all druggists. CHARLES BATCHELOR, Proprietor, N. Y.

The Chicago Tribune.

Thursday Morning, December 12, 1872.

Mayor Hall has been publicly reproved by the Committee of Seventy for the appointments which, just as his term is at its end, he has made to fill important vacancies, which he should have left to his successor, under whom these offices must be administered.

Senator Sumner's Oblivion bill, as it is called, which seeks to do away with all the official mementoes of our civil war, has roused the ire of a member of the Massachusetts Legislature, who has offered in that body a resolution scolding the Senator for "this attempt to degrade the loyal soldiery of the nation and their grand achievements."

Gambetta, together with Louis Blanc and eighty-six other Radicals, has issued a manifesto in which he demands that the Assembly, which he called "a herd of beasts" in his Grenoble speech, be dissolved, and that a new election be held in order to secure an Assembly free from the factions that disable the Versailles Assembly, and undivided in its support of Thiers and the Republic.

The Cincinnati *Gazette* sees a dreadful condition of things in the fact that a few of the Greeley Electors cast their votes for Hendricks the other day,—death having deprived them of the candidate of their choice. The fact that all the Republican members of the North Carolina Legislature voted for Merrimon for United States Senator, and elected him, has not attracted the animadversion of that journal.

The Italians who intrusted themselves to a band of emigrant swindlers, who contracted to take them to South America but abandoned them in New York in hopeless destitution, are now lying at Castle Garden in a starving condition. Most of them do not know that they are not in Buenos Ayres. Immediate action on the part of Secretary Fish in their behalf has been called for by the authorities of New York.

The measurement of grain in the city elevators continues, with results which will undoubtedly restore confidence to the warehouse business, so seriously shaken by the developments in the Munn & Scott houses. The reports of the official examination of the two elevators of Armour, Dole & Co. and that of Munger, Wheeler & Co. show no discrepancies between the amount of grain in store and the amount called for by outstanding receipts.

It is probable that Hon. Shelby M. Cullom will be the next Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives. Mr. Cullom has once filled that position with credit to himself and to the State. There is probably no member of the House better qualified, by experience and good temper, to discharge the delicate duties of the Speakership. It may be added that Mr. Cullom is commendably free from the taint of demagogism.

Commissioner Douglass' plan for reducing the expenses of the Internal Revenue Bureau is making good way in Congress. It has been approved by the House, and the Senate Finance Committee yesterday reported the House bill favorably to the Senate, with amendments, giving the Commissioner power to abolish the offices of Assessor and Assistant Assessor, in any district, at any time he may think proper before the middle of next year, and authorizing the appointment of twenty-five additional agents until July 1, 1874.

Mr. Senator Ferry, of Michigan, has interposed an objection in the Senate to the passage of the bill remitting duties on building materials imported into Boston. He demands that lumber shall be stricken from the list of free articles. Some other Senator objects to allowing imported articles now in warehouse to be withdrawn under this act, and upon these two points the old fight over the Chicago bill is to be renewed in the Senate. It is to be seen whether any Boston member will propose or consent to except lumber from the list of building materials. Surely no Illinois member will.

Governor Lewis, of Alabama, ordered the Sheriff of Montgomery yesterday to seize the Capitol in which one of the Legislatures is sitting. When that officer attempted to execute the warrant on the Senate he was promptly arrested by order of that body, which also directed the Sergeant-at-Arms to call out the militia and resist any interference of the Federal troops, and then adjourned. The Sheriff sought to enter the House with his warrant, but was prevented by the Sergeant-at-Arms. The Court House Legislature also sat yesterday, and did nothing but add to its numbers another of the defeated candidates.

The next House of Representatives will consist of 292 members, an increase of 48 over any previous Congress. In addition to this, it is announced that there will be in attendance some thirty persons claiming seats to which others have been declared elected. As the contesting of seats has become a matter of business, which the House has encouraged by voting the unsuccessful candidate the pay and mileage of a member, it is possible that even this large number will be increased before December next. In addition to the pecuniary profit of contesting an election, the House has of late years, in repeated cases, offered the additional inducement of excluding elected members of the minority party to admit political friends of the majority, though it is fair to say that the House Committee on Elections have strenuously opposed that immoral practice.

A feeling of uneasiness is prevalent among the leading mercantile houses in the rebuilt wholesale quarter of the city lying north of Lake street and east of State street, at the careless and unlawful exposure of kerosene and dangerous inflammable oils by parties in the trade. These are in numerous instances kept in casks, to the number of a score or more, on wooden sidewalks, or piled in areas surrounded by combustibles. These pine sidewalk planks are at all times saturated by leakages, and it would be the easiest of achievements for an incendiary, or even the dropped match of a careless smoker, to start a fire, the end of which it would not be so easy to calculate. The facts on this subject, presented elsewhere in a communication from a merchant, deserve the attention of the authorities, and instant reform of the practice of which complaint is made.

The *Staats-Zeitung* has a savage attack on Mayor Medill, alleging that, in making up the Committees of the Common Council, he has ignored the claims of the Germans (to wit: those of Ald. Schaffner), and has packed the Committees in the interest of the Temperance and Sunday law fanatics. We judge from the general complexion of the Committees that the Mayor made them up with exclusive reference to an honest and economical administration of the City Government, without regard to nationality or any other extraneous and impertinent consideration. Having this object in view, he would naturally overlook the claims of Ald. Schaffner. As regards the Temperance and Sunday laws, we do not believe that the Mayor has constituted any Committee with special reference to those subjects. It is more probable that they have been seized upon by the *Staats-Zeitung* to give point to its dissatisfaction in the matter of Schaffner.

There is a hubbub in Iowa concerning the appointment of a Pension Agent at DesMoines. The *State Register*, in its issue of the 8th inst., devotes two columns of its ample space to the imbroglio. It appears that Mr. Albert W. Swalm, editor of the Jefferson *Bee*, was appointed Pension Agent, some two weeks ago, in place of Stewart Goodrell, deceased; that his commission was duly made out and forwarded, but was intercepted by telegraph before it reached him, and that Mr. B. F. Gue, of DesMoines, has since been appointed. The *Register* alleges that Senator Harlan caused the change to be made, because Mr. Swalm had opposed his (Harlan's) re-election. It appears that Mr. Gue also opposed Mr. Harlan's re-election, though not so exasperatingly as Mr. Swalm. The *Register* cites a dozen or more newspapers, representing all sorts of factions, to prove that Swalm was entitled to the place, and that he has been foully dealt with.

Instructions were given to the House Judiciary Committee, yesterday, to report whether Congress had, under its power to regulate commerce between the States, any right to interfere with extortionate charges for transportation. There was a brief debate on the Bounty Land bill. How this measure would work, one of its opponents said, might be judged from the effects of a similar gift by New York to the soldiers of the Mexican War. Land warrants were given these veterans, which they sold for $36,000,000 to land sharks, who, in turn, sold them for $150,000,000, pocketing the difference at the expense of the actual settlers. If only one-tenth of the 2,000,000 persons entitled to land under this law applied for their scrip in one year, 32,000,000 acres would be thrown on the market and the result would be, that for warrants costing $10 soldiers might get barely $5. At this point, through the ingenuity of the Pennsylvania members, the debate was turned to the more vital questions, how large a proportion of the Union troops were Republicans, and what was the real character of the Grand Army of the Republic. Before they were decided the morning hour expired.

The Legislature of South Carolina has elected one S. C. Patterson to the United States Senate. The rival candidates were B. K. Scott, the present Governor, and Mr. Elliott, a colored man, at present a member of Congress. Mr. Patterson is a Pennsylvanian, sent down to South Carolina by Simon Cameron, and has amused himself during his temporary residence there by extensive manipulations of State aid voted to railroads. How he came to be elected may be judged from a statement of the circumstances: The Legislature is composed of 96 colored men, and 64 whites; the last including 31 Opposition. The Republican vote was 126, of which 96 was colored. The State is bankrupt. It cannot borrow a dollar; cannot pay the interest on the debt; has been compelled to repudiate half the bonds issued and sold last year; has no money in the Treasury, not even enough to pay the ordinary *per diem* of the members. Mr. Patterson had an abundance of money at his command,—much more than Scott could put up; Elliott had no money, his capital being his complexion. The impecunious condition of the Treasury was notorious. Patterson was elected on the first ballot.

The rumored offer of the editorship of the New York *Tribune* to Mr. Colfax, and its acceptance by him, is more or less discussed by the newspapers, some of which impute to him extraordinary endowments in the profession of journalism, while others think that he will be merely a figure-head, and that the work on the paper will be done by more experienced hands. Mr. Colfax has been successful as a politician beyond most of his contemporaries. He has had no experience that is worth anything as an editor, and he is not a conspicuously able writer, as Mr. Greeley certainly was. But any discussion of his probable success or failure as Mr. Greeley's successor is premature. The proof of the pudding will be in the eating thereof. In the republic of newspapers, as in the republic of letters, there is no privileged class. Every man passes for what he is worth, and Mr. Colfax will be no exception from the rule. We apprehend that the New York *Times* will be about the last paper in the country to discover Mr. Colfax's merits after he shall have entered upon the discharge of his new duties. Meanwhile, he will be cordially welcomed by all fair-minded journalists to his new field of labor.

The Chicago produce markets were rather tame yesterday, with little change in prices, except in wheat. Mess pork was quiet and easier, at $11.80@11.87½ cash, and $11.87½@12.00 seller March. Lard was in good demand and firm at $7.10 per 100 lbs cash, and $7.55@7.60 seller March. Meats were quiet and firm, at 3½c for part salted shoulders; 5½c for do short ribs; 6c for do short clear, and 7½@7½c per lb for 15-lb green hams. Highwines were quiet and firm at 89c per gallon. Dressed hogs were dull and easier at 4¼c per lb. Flour was quiet and steady. Wheat was less active, and averaged 1½c lower, closing firm, at $1.11½ cash, and $1.12¾ seller January. Corn was dull but firm, at ¼@⅜c decline, closing at 31½c cash, and 31½c seller January. Oats were quiet and easier, at 25@25½c seller the month, and 25½@25½c seller January. Rye was quiet and strong at ½c advance, at 61@61½c for No. 2. Barley was steady and more active, at 60¾@61c for No. 2; 50@50½c for No. 3, and 60¼@61c seller January. Live hogs were active and closed steady at about the prices current yesterday afternoon, or at $3.70@3.90. The cattle and sheep markets were dull, the former at a further decline of 25c per 100 lbs.

The latest operation in the land-grabbing business is that now pending before the House of Representatives. It is a bill entitling every soldier, sailor, or the widow or children of any soldier or sailor, to enter a half section of land and to sell the certificate of entry to any person who will agree to settle upon and cultivate the same. This bill will take, to satisfy all claims under it, 80,000,000 acres of land, or perhaps twice that amount. The fraud of the bill is in its declared purpose to secure a homestead to the soldiers and sailors. Any soldier or sailor, or a widow, or any child, male or female, can enter, now, a homestead of public land, free of cost; but that homestead is not transferable, nor is the title complete, until after a stated number of years of occupancy and cultivation. There is, therefore, no sailor, or soldier, or widow, who is debarred by any law from acquiring a homestead at any time. But this bill is not designed to secure homesteads. The public lands are gradually passing away from the Government, and this bill has for its purpose the securing of the many millions of acres issued under it to speculators at a very little cost. The scrip that will be issued to the soldiers and sailors and widows and children will have comparatively little value. It will be subject to all the conditions of the Homestead law that require occupancy and cultivation, but it will be assignable. It may have a value of five, possibly ten, cents an acre, and persons who want homesteads will not even pay that much when they can take what land they want free of all cost. But, as an investment at five cents an acre, this scrip will offer inducements to capitalists, who can afford to hold it for twenty years, when land will have become scarce and homesteads at a premium. Then these assignable certificates issued to soldiers, sailors, and widows, no longer living, will represent millions of acres of land, and be a mine of profit to the men who may hold them. This is the bill which is before Congress, and which is urged as a measure of national gratitude to the defenders of the country. It would be infinitely better for the country, and far more profitable to the soldiers and sailors, to vote a donation of $25 in cash to each of the latter.

THE BOSTON MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

At the Presidential election in November, the City of Boston gave about 6,000 majority for the regular Republican ticket. At the municipal election on Tuesday last, Mayor Gaston, a Democrat, was re-elected by 852 majority, at the head of the Citizens' ticket, as opposed to Mr. Henry L. Pierce, at the head of the Republican and People's ticket. There is evidently some reason, beyond the ordinary causes which influence voters, to account for this extraordinary change of votes in one short month. That it was not a change of political sentiment is evident. There has been nothing to effect a change of political sentiment, and so large a change could not possibly have been effected in so short a time.

The municipal election in Boston, this year, was felt to be an unusually important one by all classes of citizens. Boston, like Chicago, had been visited by a distressing calamity, which more than ever made the prosperity of the city dependent upon the ability and wisdom of its rulers. Large business interests had been paralyzed. Financial operations had been temporarily checked, and the resources of the banks and insurance offices, which were necessary for the resumption of business, were seriously crippled. A weak or corrupt administration in the face of such circumstances might prove even worse than the fire itself, and it was therefore felt (as after the Chicago fire) that the services of the best and ablest citizens, without regard to political bias, should be secured. Men were needed who were qualified by long experience to give counsel and advice in this unexpected emergency. The press, without regard to party, echoed the popular sentiment, and yet the Custom House managers, with the most obstinate blindness and folly, determined to draw the party lines rigidly where no party question was involved, and to demand a pledge that not only the nominations of Aldermen should be made strictly within the party, but even that all municipal appointments should be made upon the same political basis. The only question at issue in the canvass was the restoration of the prosperity of the city and the resumption of its business, which had been checked by the fire. Every citizen felt an interest in this issue, as they were sharing alike the depression caused by the suspension of trade, and yet the party managers obstinately and wilfully ignored the popular feeling, and rigidly applied the party tests as if some clearly-defined National question were pending. The nomination for the office of Mayor was offered successively to several gentlemen, who successively declined. At last, the nomination was offered to Mr. Pierce, whose ability no one questioned, whereupon Mr. Pierce wrote a manly letter to the managers, offering to accept the nomination provided that he was not run upon an exclusively party ticket, and could be allowed to call about himself men of unquestioned ability to help frame and execute the laws. The Republican managers declined to do so, and went without a candidate until three days before the election, when they reluctantly assented to Mr. Pierce's request. It was then too late. They had lost their prestige. They had bungled the canvass beyond all hope of success, and the barnacles reaped the harvest of their folly in the election of a ticket, headed by a man whose administration had been inefficient, though respectable even before the crisis caused by the fire. There is undoubtedly a Republican majority in Boston. There was undoubtedly a majority in the city who were dissatisfied with Mayor Gaston, and were eager for a change, and for the election of city officers who would prove themselves equal to the emergency. The action of the Custom House faction, however, conclusively proved that, if their ticket should be elected, there was little hope of any improvement in the City Government, or that it would do anything unselfishly and for the popular good, and the people turned round and voted them down. It is to be presumed that the Custom House managers in Boston have now discovered their mistake, and the additional fact that there is some intelligence and virtue outside of the offices they fill, and, unless they have remarkably thick skins, they will appreciate this rebuke of the people and learn the lesson it conveys. Virtue and intelligence are fortunately not confined to one political clique, and there are occasions when both virtue and brains are needed in the administration, and there is no occasion for the use of the late War of the Rebellion or the abolition of Slavery as helps in the administration of municipal government.

MR. BANKS' RESOLUTION.

The resolution which Mr. Banks offered in the House, on Monday, includes four distinct propositions:

1. That the salary of the President shall be fixed at $50,000 per annum, commencing in March, 1873.

2. That the term of the President and Vice President shall be six years instead of four.

3. That the President shall be ineligible for re-election.

4. That the President and Vice President shall be elected by the people at the same time the Congressmen are elected.

The first of these propositions requires no Constitutional amendment, as the Constitution leaves it to Congress to fix the compensation of the President, stipulating only that it shall not be increased nor diminished for the term which the President is serving. Mr. Banks' resolution avoids this by fixing the date of the new compensation at the beginning of a new Presidential term. There has been a growing sentiment in the country favorable to an increase of the President's pay. The argument is, that the present compensation is insufficient to provide for the necessary outlay in maintaining the establishment of the Chief-Executive, with its incidental courtesies and entertainments. At the time when $25,000 was fixed as the annual compensation, that sum was equivalent in what it would buy to the sum of at least $50,000 at the present time, and perhaps $100,000. It is probable that the pride of the American people will indorse the change of salary which Mr. Banks has proposed.

The other propositions are more serious, as involving Constitutional amendments. However much they may recommend themselves, the dangers incident to the practice of amending the Constitution will go far toward delaying their adoption. The change in the length of the Presidential term from four years to six years is, in itself, comparatively unimportant, and will become more so if the principles of Civil Service Reform shall ever be practically and uniformly enforced. There would be no object in changing the length of the term unless it were combined with the ineligibility of the President for re-election. In this case, there might be arguments in favor of it, such as diminishing the frequency of elections, and giving a more uniform and steady policy to the Government in reference to foreign affairs. There are obvious reasons why it would be better to determine the principle of the ineligibility of the President for a second term of office. Experience has unquestionably taught that the temptations to use the patronage and influence of the Presidential office for securing a second term have been irresistible at times. The opportunities for doing this are unbounded. Under the present system, we can only rely upon the individual honor of any President not to direct his administration with a view to re-election, and even a reasonably honorable man, as the world goes, might deceive himself in this respect. Mr. Greeley held that one of the chief elements of Civil Service Reform was the one-term principle, as the only means to take away the temptation to abuse the appointing power.

The fourth proposition of Mr. Banks' resolution is more important in its bearings than all the others. If it meant simply that the day of voting for President should be the same as that on which the people vote for Congressmen, Congress could, and perhaps should, make the change. This alone would not require a Constitutional amendment, as the duty of fixing the time for choosing Presidential Electors is left to Congress by the Constitution. But the resolution, as reported, seems to indicate a change from the custom of choosing Electors who shall elect the President to that of the direct popular vote. If this is construed to mean that the popular majority in the entire vote of the United States shall elect the President, there are grave objections to it. Such a course would sever one of the last links to the independence of the States contemplated by our Federal system, and would tend to increase the present dangers of centralization. It would also render election frauds more dangerous, and less subject to control than they are now. A proposition to do away with the Electoral College as a superfluity, and as subject to serious abuses, but to retain the practice of electing the President by a majority of the votes of States, to be determined by a direct vote in every State, would have more points to recommend it. The danger of the Electoral College voting in opposition to the votes of the people is always present. It would have been most likely to arise in the case supposed by the New York *World*, in which Mr. Greeley was assumed to have received a small majority of the States. Had he died under these circumstances, it is probable that there would have been such differences among the Liberal Electors as to secure General Grant's re-election, though the people had voted against him.

It is significant that the newspaper press of the country is discussing these various propositions without regard to party alliance. The *Staats-Zeitung*, of this city, indorses Mr. Banks' resolution regarding the President's six-years' term, and ineligibility to re-election. It assigns as a reason why action should be taken now, that it is impossible to foretell the relative position of parties four years hence, or who will be the candidates, so that no favoritism could be alleged as the moving cause of the change.

RAILROAD AID SWINDLES.

We have repeatedly referred to the consequences to the municipalities concerned resulting from voting aid to railroad corporations. In the Iowa cases, and in the Wisconsin cases, where aid was voted under State laws, and those laws had been upheld by the State Courts as constitutional, the Supreme Court of the United States has laid down the doctrine that it will not reverse an interpretation of the State Constitution by the Supreme Court of such State. Wherever such bonds were issued, sanctioned at the time by the concurrent action of the Legislature and Judiciary of the State, the Federal Court has held that the bonds are a valid debt, to enforce payment of which the holder is entitled to all legal remedies.

A new question has been raised of late in the case of some bonds voted by the City of Milwaukee. The Legislature of Wisconsin, in 1853, authorized Milwaukee by popular vote to issue bonds in aid of railroads. Subsequent to the passage of this act, the Milwaukee & Superior Railroad Company and the Milwaukee & Beloit Railroad Company were incorporated. They had no existence at the time of the passage of the act of the Legislature. In 1856, the City of Milwaukee voted $100,000 of city bonds to each of these Companies. No work was ever attempted on either road, the whole thing was a fraud, and the managers, after getting the bonds, sold them and were heard of no more. The city never paid any interest on the bonds. As all questions upon the merits had been decided in other cases, the defence made in a suit against the city upon the interest coupons of these bonds was, that the city had no authority under the act of the Legislature to issue bonds in aid of any railroad company not in existence at the time of the passage of the act. That defence was held to be good by the United States District Court, but the Supreme Court, on Monday last, overruled this defence, and held that the authority given by the act was general, and covered these subscriptions.

These bonds now, with the accumulated interest, amount to $400,000, for which the city never received the least consideration. It is but another in the long list of instances where these subscriptions have become a terrible burden upon the people who so inconsiderately made them. It is a very easy thing for one class of men to vote mortgages upon other people's property, and the full measure of the wrong is felt when the tax-gatherer seizes the mortgaged property to pay the interest, or the Sheriff proceeds to sell it to pay an execution for the principal.

SPECIAL LEGISLATION.

In answer to a correspondent, the *Nation* describes the English system of dealing with what is called in England "Private Bill Legislation," and what we name "Special Legislation." It first points out the sacrifice that the English Parliament has made voluntarily of special privileges. First it gave up the franking privilege for the purpose of cheapening postage; then it gave up the right of members to exercise any influence on the appointing and removing power; and, finally, it surrendered the privilege of sitting as judge of the election of its own members. These concessions attest the progressive spirit of the English legislators, and an individual predisposition for reform which does not exist, as a whole, in the American Congress. This spirit accounts equally for the more even justice of special legislation. The process by which such legislation is determined is for the applicant to draw his own bill, setting forth its object and extent fully in a preamble. Parliament has a "Court of *locus-standi*," to which these bills are referred. This Committee makes up other committees, referring the private bills to them in groups of four or five each; but no member who is interested, or whose constituency is interested, favorably or unfavorably, in any bill is competent to serve. Then comes a trial before the Committee, whose award, if favorable, cannot exceed the scope of the petitioner's preamble. The unanimous report of a Committee is usually accepted as final, but, if the bill be opposed, a member demanding a vote, a day is assigned by the Speaker, and it is made a part of the order of business for that day. No member can plead ignorance of the day, as a "paper," showing the order, is delivered to the members at their residence every morning. Some such protection as that afforded by the last-named custom is contemplated in the amendment to the rules of our House of Representatives, proposed last week by Mr. McCrary, which provides that it shall not be in order to suspend the rules, and pass any bill or resolution, without at least three days' notice, which shall be printed and laid on each member's desk. The *Nation* gives its information with reference to the Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention, evidently intending that the latter body shall imitate the English system to some extent. But the *Nation* is mistaken when it says that the only protection we have now is in the provision in some State Constitutions requiring private acts to be confined to one object which shall be stated in the title. The best protection is that which is found in the Constitution of Illinois, expressly prohibiting all special legislation. This is what the Pennsylvania Convention should imitate.

LAND GRANTS AND LAND REFORM.

The Secretary of the Land Reform Association recently addressed a letter to ex-Governor Hawley, of Connecticut, upon the subject of granting lands to railroads, expressing the hope that he would be found opposed to the squandering policy which has been pursued by Congress. In reply, Governor Hawley has declared himself in entire sympathy with the objects of the Land Reform Association and opposed to any further land grants to railroads, and announces his intention to take this position during the coming session of Congress.

The public at large, excepting that class engaged in land-grabbing, will applaud Governor Hawley's letter. This wholesale granting of lands to every company which comes in and asks for them, is not only creating land monopolies, but is involving the country in the dangers of a financial crisis by locking up vast amounts of capital in unproductive enterprises. The remedy for this evil is suggested very concisely by Governor Hawley: "I am utterly opposed to further land grants to railroads; I would not grant another acre." That is the heroic remedy for choking off these corporations, and it can be applied without injustice to any one. As long as roads were constructed in the interests of poor men, there was sufficient reason for land grants, but the granting of lands now is in the direct interest of huge monopolies and speculative enterprises, which are simply plundering the Government and despoiling the people to enrich themselves, without conferring any substantial benefit in return. We have gone too fast in building railroads, and it is now time to stop. We have more railroads through unsettled territory than there will be any use for in a dozen years to come. More lands have been opened up than can be settled in ten years. The crops which are raised on the lands already settled are larger than can be sold at a profit. There is no good and substantial reason why another acre of land should be given away to a railroad corporation. When the railroads of the country become unable to conduct its exchanges, and the supply of land shows signs of failure to meet the demands of settlers, then it will be time to talk about building more railroads in the prairie-dog country. Under any other circumstances a land grant is simply a gift without equivalent, a useless and wanton waste of the people's property, either for corruption or to increase the power of a grinding monopoly. It is very comforting, from a patriotic point of view, to be assured by Congressional grandiloquence that Westward the Star of Empire takes its way, that this a land of progress and development, and that all the world is flocking to our shores to populate the great West and Southwest, but just at present we have got more lands opened up than settlers to occupy them, and more railroads than there is any use for, so that the Star of Empire can afford to halt awhile until population catches up with it, and Congressmen can afford to adopt Governor Hawley's determination not to give another acre to a railroad corporation, and thus choke them all off at once.

The Chinese residents of San Francisco recently became disgusted at the slow process of American justice, and, imitating the summary procedure of Yen, the upright Judge of Hang Yang, in the Province of Hupeh, took the law into their own hands. A Chinaman, who was accused of stealing money, was taken by them and tried for the crime, found guilty and was deliberately thrown into the bay, the Judge attending to see that his sentence was carried out properly, and to prevent the issuing of any writs of *supersedeas*. A boatman cruising in that vicinity rescued the wretched thief, and now the authorities have arrested the thief, the Judge, lawyers, and witnesses, put them all in prison, and there will be a new trial all round. Barring the severity of the punishment, there was something very cheering in this administration of Chinese justice, and it is to be sincerely hoped that the trial of the Celestials,—whatever result it may have upon them,—will impress the Occidental Court with a sense of the blessings of promptness, enterprise, and energy of Oriental forms of procedure. If Chinamen, with the lax notions of morality that pervade their minds, are disgusted at the lameness of our justice, what must be the opinion of Americans? The punishment of the Chinese thief was an outrageous one; but there is a valuable hint nevertheless in the action of the Court which tried him.

An important religious question has arisen in Switzerland, growing out of the relations of the ecclesiastical and civil powers. The Council of State of Neufchatel has proposed the separation of Church and State, but the Committee to whom the proposition was referred has found extreme difficulty, and an apparent impossibility, in adopting the measure, owing to the temporalities of the Church. Meanwhile, the Swiss Society of Liberal Catholics, which has for its aim the establishment of Old Catholic communities, opposition to the dogma of Infallibility, the inauguration of public lectures, the circulation of enlightening works, and the securing of a thorough scientific education for Catholic students of theology, is steadily working to effect the separation proposed in the Council. The temporalities of the Church possess a total value of 1,950,000 francs, with a revenue of 80,000 francs, while the State expends annually from 50,000 to 60,000 francs on the public worship budget.

A Lieutenant in the Spanish navy has published a new theory of cyclones, which is, at least, a very plausible one. He founds his reasoning on the hypothesis that a zone of air, saturated with vapor and compressed by two opposite forces, acquires a power of resistance peculiar to solid bodies, and may, therefore, be made to revolve like a disk. He applies this hypothesis to the typhoons of the Chinese Sea, and shows what is universally known, that there is a northeast trade wind, and a southwest monsoon, and that between these two winds there exists in the Pacific a zone of calms which shifts its position in accordance with the prevailing wind,—that is, always on the side of the weaker one. Now, if these winds be oblique to each other and unequal, the zone will revolve, and, as it finds no obstacle to stop it, it will also be shifted more or less horizontally, which is the exact motion of cyclones.

The removal of tests at the English Universities having led to Nonconformists sending their sons to Cambridge in increased numbers, the Congregationalists, as a body, have determined to erect a large and imposing church which shall be worthy of the sect and the buildings of the University among which it will be placed. The cost of the church, which has been subscribed by the leading Nonconformists of England, will be about $100,000. Considerable opposition was manifested to the work at the outset, but it finally yielded, and the foundations of the church were laid a few weeks since directly opposite Pembroke College. There is great rejoicing in England over what is considered as a decided triumph of religious progress.

The Philadelphia Common Council has just been investigating a case of alleged bribery and corruption, wherein a wooden pavement is concerned, and has been unable to come to any conclusion. It is not the first time that a Common Council has been puzzled to find out where the corruption comes in relative to wooden pavements. There is nothing which can screen corruption from the public view as thoroughly as a wooden pavement, unless it be a gas or horse-railway ordinance. Corruption of this kind can ride over the people as easily as the people can ride over the pavement.

The Supreme Court of California recently rendered an opinion in a case touching the admissibility of Chinese evidence against a white man. The defendant, a white man, was indicted for the crime of assault with intent to commit murder, alleged to have been committed upon one Sam Wah, a native and subject of the Empire of China. On the trial, the said Sam Wah was called as a witness on the part of the people, and, the defendant having been convicted, prosecuted an appeal. The Supreme Court merely reiterated its decision in a previous case, that the statute of the State forbidding any Mongolian or Chinese to give evidence in favor of, or against, a white man was not repugnant to the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, and therefore remanded the cause for a new trial. This species of injustice, however, cannot last long. The new codes recently passed by the Legislature of California abolish all distinctions in reference to the color, nationality, and race of witnesses, and will be in full force on the 1st of January next, so that after New Year's Day Chinamen can testify against white robbers and murderers.

WALL STREET.

Review of the Money, Bond, Gold, Stock, and Produce Markets.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The stock market was generally firm to-day, with activity and fluctuations in a few shares. Pacific Mail was the most active in the list, owing, it is said, to the covering of short contracts more than to any organized "bull" movement. Hannibal & St. Joseph common was the next feature, opening at 44, declining to 41, and late in the day advancing to 47¾. The preferred stock advanced from 65¾ to 69¼ on small transactions. Western Union was active in the morning at an advance from 71¼ to 73. Wabash was firm, and advanced from 70 to 71¾. Boston, Hartford, and Erie advanced from 8¾ to 9¼. The balance of the market was dull and firm. There seems to be little short interest in the market, and but few stocks are loaning below the regular rates for money. Commission brokers, generally, are carrying liberal lines of stocks for customers, who have "fortified" against "the January rise," which is always expected but sometimes fails. The upward movement now going on seems to be under the special patronage of the smaller class of speculators. Large and prominent operators are apparently indifferent spectators on the Stock Exchange at present. The movement in Western Union is by a pool, which does not include the managers of the company, who appear to have no sympathy with it, they still believing Congress will take some action calculated to impair the value of the property.

MONEY.

The money market was active and close. Borrowers on call paid from 7 per cent to 1-32. Prime discounts are dull in the present condition of the call loan market. The quotation for prime bills remains at 10@12.

GOLD

was firmer, and advanced from 112⅝ to 112¾. On the increased firmness of foreign exchange the bulk of the business was done at 112¾.

Of the recent decline in gold, the *Herald* money article says:

The sales of long gold by parties who forsee the inevitable consequence of a heavy reduction in the imports the coming season, owing to the over importations of the past year, and overstocked supply of goods, not to speak of the normal tendency to a lower gold premium in view of the increasing prosperity of the country, readily explain the decline. It is also well understood that Secretary Boutwell is planning to succeed Senator Wilson in the Senate, and will exert every effort to depress gold and make favor with the capitalists, who compose the Massachusetts Legislature, and who are desirous of contraction.

EXCHANGE.

Foreign exchange, to-day, was very strong, and advanced. Merchants are now disposed to remit more freely, in order to close up their obligations to Europe. In addition to this demand, bankers are liberal buyers, and everything offered in commercial sterling is quickly absorbed by them. Recently some American securities have returned from the other side, which makes some demand for exchange, and early in the future the bankers have large remittances to make on account of interest and dividends.

BONDS.

Government bonds advanced in sympathy with gold. The dealings were small.

PRODUCE.

At the close flour was dull and heavy; No. 2 and superfine freely offered and lower. Wheat closes quiet, but firm, for spring, and stronger for winter. There is a limited speculative inquiry for amber. Pork was firmer; $25 bris of new mess, for this week, sold at $13.75; $25 bris sold at $13.20 cash. Cut meats are generally quiet; sales of 25 boxes ribbed bellies at 8¾c, and a few light pickled bellies in bulk at 8c; shoulders, 5c bid and 5¾c asked. Bacon quiet. Lard in good demand and higher. Sales: 1,670 tierces at 8c for Western and city, and 7¾c for No. 1 Western to arrive for future delivery 1,000 tierces February, 8¾c.

TRANSPORTATION.

Better Railroad Facilities Wanted.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 11.—The report of the Committee appointed to take into consideration the lack of transportation between Milwaukee and Eastern points during the winter, was submitted to the Chamber of Commerce to-day, and the following resolutions unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the President appoint a Committee of three to recommend the officers of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad to take into consideration the formation of a through line of cars to run between Milwaukee and Eastern points.

Resolved, That the President appoint a Committee of three to confer with the managers of connecting freight lines now doing business with Milwaukee, to urge upon them our claims to a fair quota of cars in winter, in consideration of the large amount of business they receive to and from Milwaukee during other seasons of the year.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 11.—The Transportation Committee of the Board of Trade passed a resolution to-day to invite a Convention of General Freight Agents of the United States to meet here, or at some other central point, to act in the matter of securing better scaling of railroad freights.

PERSONAL.

James P. Joyce, of Ohio, is at the Briggs.

Mr. H. E. Pickett, of Japan, is at the Sherman.

General E. C. Lippincott, of Springfield, is at the Tremont.

Hon. J. J. Blair of New Jersey, is at the Sherman.

General S. A. Hurlbut, of Belvidere, is at the Tremont.

F. C. A. m. van Woef, of the Netherlands, is at the Sherman.

Colonel S. S. Sta[illegible] United States Army, is at the T[illegible]

Captain Thomas McMillin, United States Army, is at the Sherman.

Hon. Henry A. Ess and wife, Kansas City, Mo., are at the Tremont.

Fire Marshal Williams is very ill at his residence on West Adams street.

Colonel McComb, United States Army, Rock Island, is at the Tremont.

Adam Earle, President of the Kankee route to Cincinnati, is at the Gardner.

Charley Woolworth, one of the genial proprietors of the Briggs, has just returned from a three-weeks trip to New York.

RAILROAD NEWS.

The New Headquarters of the Various Companies.

Consolidation of the Burlington & Missouri River with the C., B. & Q. Road.

The Route of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Into the City.

LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS.

For the most part, all the general railway offices which were destroyed by the fire have either returned to their old locations or have been permanently established elsewhere. The "temporary buildings" are being rapidly vacated for more convenient structures, and will now be surrendered to the uses they subserved previous to the fire. Some time ago the Illinois Central Company removed from its temporary quarters at No. 508 Michigan avenue to its new building erected on the site of the old Land Department building, and, at a somewhat later period, the Chicago & Alton Company occupied their new house on Van Buren street.

The Michigan Central Railroad has vacated the building at the corner of Sixteenth street and Wabash avenue, and has occupied its new building at the foot of South Water street, erected on the site of the old structure. It is built of Joliet stone, and is 110 feet long by 50 wide. It is modeled after the style of the old building, the front wall of which was utilized. It was designed by Mr. H. A. Gardner, Chief Engineer of the road, and began about the middle of last June. The wood-work consists of walnut and ash, finished in oil, and worked into massive and unique carvings. It is heated by a low pressure steam apparatus put in by the Northwestern Manufacturing Company. The building is entered on the north side through a spacious doorway, which leads into a broad hall. The first floor is divided into janitor's rooms, sleeping apartments for the clerks, and brakemen's rooms. The latter are furnished with iron bedsteads, and have all the usual sanitary comforts to the employés of the road. The building is furnished throughout with speaking tubes and dumb-waiters, and is in every way complete for the purpose for which it was designed. The sign which was on the old structure, and which passed through the fire, has been re-hung as a relic over the new, and although much blackened and charred, still is readable.

The Illinois Central Railroad immediately after the fire purchased two three-story buildings, Nos. 139 and 149 Michigan avenue. These premises they occupied until about the 1st of July last, when they removed into their present commodious structure. This building, as before stated, stands upon the site of their Land Department, and is 30 feet by 131 deep, with four stories and basement. The front is of pressed brick, ornamented with a beautiful red sandstone from the Company's quarries at Carbondale. This building is designed, however, only for temporary use, it being the intention of the Company to construct a still more elegant edifice for the general offices near where the new depot is to be built, on Michigan avenue. The partitions are, therefore, all of wood, to be removed when the Company vacates the building. The roof is of a peculiar pattern, being Fifteen in number, and manufactured by the Chicago Roofing Company. It is made of zinc, and is fire-proof. The interior of the building presents a peculiar appearance, being lined throughout with wood, put on in panels, giving the appearance of a country railway station. The building has been constructed in this manner so that it may be easily transformed into a store house. The whole office is heated by four Leister furnaces, is provided with speaking tubes and dumb waiters. The Company will be compelled to await the decision of the United States Courts regarding the disputed property on Michigan avenue, and it is, therefore, probable they will continue to occupy this building for some time to come.

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company have their general offices from Nos. 504 to 508 Michigan avenue to Armour's new building, on the corner of Michigan avenue and Fourth street, about the 1st of January. The Company will occupy the second, third and fifth stories of this building, which stands on the site of their old offices. The office will be reached by a spacious stairway on Michigan avenue, and will be fitted up with much elegance and richness. The second story is to be occupied by the President, General Superintendent, Division Superintendent, Telegraph Department, General Freight Agent's room and the Treasury Department. On the fifth story will be the Auditor, Purchasing Agent, General Ticket Agent, Conductor's room, and some rooms devoted to the Chicago and Aurora. In the fourth story will be the Engineer's office, Chief Engineer, Last Car Time Card room, and General Agent's room. The fifth story will contain the Stationer's store-rooms and the office of the Freight Auditor. It will be seen by this arrangement that ample room has been provided for all the various offices have been placed in convenient positions.

The Chicago & Pittsburgh Company, nothing certain as yet, have, for the reason that the manager has not arrived at a conclusion. There is a talk of their removing their offices to St. Louis. It is not easy to see why this should be done. The Company will probably locate in the city.

CONSOLIDATION OF LINES.

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company have leased the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, and the management will be transferred on the 1st of January. Burlington, Iowa, becomes much enhanced of late last the result of this change, as the removal of the general offices of the road from that point, and the consolidation of the Burlington offices by the road, will add much to this anxiety. Along the line of the road this fact has also prevailed. Changes at the various stations have heard of, and the change of management express trains will stop at their towns, and Creston people appreciate more of a decline in real estate. It is also fear that the engine-houses and repair shops, situated within the limits of their city, are to be removed, and that the whole line, general ruin is anticipated as the result of the transfer. These fears are, for the most part, groundless. No changes are to be made in the management of the Burlington & Missouri River Road, and as are to be gradual. The policy will be altered but very little, and the policy will be the same as heretofore. As to the officers there will be little change. C. E. Perkins, the General Superintendent, has been recently elected Vice President of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company. This position he will assume on the 1st of January, which will occasion a change in the office which he vacates. Mr. W. H. Stennett, the Assistant Superintendent, will receive the appointment of General Ticket Agent, and Mr. A. E. Touzalin has accepted the position of General Passenger Agent and Land Commissioner of the Burlington & Kansas Pacific Railroad. Farther than these statements will quiet the fears of Burlington and other towns on the line of the leased road.

THE MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL.

The stations on the line of the Milwaukee & St. Paul within the borders of this State have been located, but there is no doubt that they will be several very attractive suburban villages, and it is said that nearly every one of them along the route feels confident that in a season or two it will blossom out into a fine summer-hotel, and any number of cottages. Some of them will doubtless be built, and the speculators are busy with them. Every stroke made by the road to St. Paul, in its approaches to a point in this city, indicates the nerve and energy of the management and the fact that this is instantly one of the leading lines out of Chicago. The line will come east from Lake street, at the corner of which, on the north side, the Company have built a fine commodious brick freight-houses of the Company are just being completed. At the foot of Carroll street the line turns south on West Water street and passes under the Lake, Randolph, and Madison street viaducts into the great Union Passenger House, to be occupied by the Pennsylvania Central, Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne, Chicago, Alton & St. Louis, and Milwaukee & St. Paul; and now very likely to be commenced and completed next season, realizing the long postponed ambition of the West Side for one of the finest passenger houses in the world. Superintendent McCullough says it shall be surpassed by none on the footstool.

THE LAW COURTS.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

Solomon and Abraham Hirsh complain to the Supreme Court that No. 168 Twenty-second street, which was leased by Harder & Hafer to them to the 1st of May next, is being undermined, obstructed, and rendered uninhabitable, unprofitable and useless by the South Chicago Turnverein and its agents, who have commenced excavating under and around it, torn away pieces of it, piled boxes in front of it, and gone to work in a deuced ungentlemanly way to make things disagreeable and unbearable to your orators. Wherefore, your orators now throw up entrenchments in the shape of a bill of injunction, before which even the bold Turnvereiners turn pale; and the parties will have to fight it out in the Courts, to the tune of many dollars.

Schweinfarth & Co. sue H. C. Childs and Timothy T. Verdiere for the amount of bread supplied to the poor for the South Division, valued at $899.78. The defendants contracted with the County Commissioner, at 3 7-16c per pound for the entire city, and these complainants took the work off their hands for the South Division. Kleinhaus & Co. also sue on the same account, for the value of the bread furnished by them under the same contract to the North Division. Both petitioners pray that M. Pollak, County Clerk, be restrained from paying the defendants until their claims have been settled.

Mrs. Fahrenkrug, widow, sues the Eclectic Insurance Company for the recovery of the policy on the life of her deceased husband, for $1,000. And what is the defence? That the premium, admitted to be duly paid, was paid to the wrong party, such party being the person who delivered the policy, and whom, the defendant contends, was not competent to receive the money, although the complainant was not aware of the fact. The jury separated after the close of the Court, and their finding is not known.

The creditors of the Union Lithographing Company hold their first meeting this morning at 11 o'clock, before Register Hibbard, for the purpose of electing an Assignee. A detailed account has been given in this column of the unfortunate condition of this bankrupt, and the necessity for a vigorous settlement of its affairs has been long apparent, particularly on account of the smaller creditors.

The decree of the court in the cause Rees et al. v. Otto Peltzer et al. was filed yesterday. It is in substance as published in THE TRIBUNE at the time it was delivered. The Court dismisses the bill for want of equity at the costs of the complainant; complainant accepts, and takes an appeal to the Supreme Court; the appeal is granted and a bond filed for $20,000 fully approved.

Mrs. Matilda Klemm, having loved her husband dearly enough and long enough to bring forth five of his children, now seeks divorce from him because he is in prison and in trouble. She describes her husband as guilty of the infamous crime of robbing the United States mail, and, therefore, demands instant uncoupling from so vile a fellow.

In the case of George Driver, charged with the murder of his wife, the defendant's attorney yesterday entered a motion for a change of venue, the petition being based, among other things, upon the language used in the recent report of the Grand Jury. The motion was granted, and the venue changed to Lake County.

It having been freely reported among the profession that the Knickerbocker Company had abandoned the intention of carrying their case to Lake County, and had neglected to take out transcripts from the Superior Court of Cook County, the TRIBUNE may state that transcripts were taken out yesterday.

The Courts were prolific in bills yesterday. To give a full summary of them would double the available space; the facts are therefore set forth under the heading of new suits for the benefit of those that care for such reading.

Judge Blodgett being indisposed, yesterday, there was no sitting of the District Court, and the Circuit Court adjourned at an early hour.

The County Court room being now properly heated, the Judge will probably attend to do business during some part of to-day.

The National Loan and Trust claims against the State Insurance Company will be resumed this morning.

J. C. Hilton sues the Great Western Telegraph Company for $6,603, the amount of an unpaid note.

The trial of Hugh Maher is continued until next term.

THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.

[Judge Blodgett.]

BANKRUPTCY—2,131—J. H. Johnson and R. D. Buford, of Rock Island, discharged.

THE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.

[Judge Blodgett.]

LAW—726—Clark v. Lorillard Insurance Company; demurrer of plaintiff to second plea of defendant, Carsich Norwood, Receiver.

NEW SUITS.

Third National Bank v. John W. Tappan; bill to restrain the collection of taxes on bank stock.

CRIMINAL COURT.

[Judge Rogers.]

514—Miller; jury fix term in the Penitentiary at one year. 968—Fitzgerrotion; jury trial. 494—Driver; plea not guilty; venue changed to Lake County.

THE SUPERIOR COURT.

[Judge Porter.]

LAW—2,060—Kehoe v. Gowan; verdict $1,003.33; motion for new trial. 3,175—Hamlin v. Millson; judgment $333.34, and special exceptions. 2,647—Hamlin v. Lamar Insurance Company; motion of plaintiff for speedy trial sustained; verdict for $5,562 and judgment. 2,648—Hamlin v. People's Insurance Company; same for $5,262, and judgment. 2,908—Mason v. Commercial Insurance Company; default. 3,521—Powell v. Swann; finding for plaintiff by Court; damages $453.03, and judgment; exceptions, and bond of $700; bill of exceptions in 20 days. 3,859 s—South Chicago Brewing Company v. Kehoe; judgment $693.18. 3,518—Clinton Lumber Company v. Burke; judgment $527.48. 2,920—Carter v. Goodrich; judgment $160.96. 1,965—Rafnot v. Parish; new trial denied and judgment. 3,375—Singer & Talcott Stone Company v. Smith; dismissed by plaintiff. 3,065—Wallace v. Bread; jury trial resumed for plaintiff $237.23, and motion for new trial. 2,602—Taylor v. Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company; on motion of plaintiff, leave to amend Narr. 3,625—Adams v. Panschlidler; motion as to publication sustained. 2,502—McGraw v. McDonald; motion by petitioner to amend by adding party defendants. 2,502—Jenkins v. Norris; default against all. 3,185—Bradley v. Keene; jury to separate.

Call, 13 to 16, inclusive, 18, 19, 21 to 37, inclusive.

[Judge Gary.]

CHANCERY—836—Hamilton v. Quamby; on motion of complainant, dismissed as to Thompson, without prejudice; death of Wilder suggested, and leave to complainant to file bill of review against heirs of Wilder. 110 s—Goodman v. Beckford; plea of defendants set for argument and overruled. 776—Anthony v. Whom it may concern; decree establishing title. 314—Spruance v. Maher; reference to Magruder. 1,086—Rogers v. Montague; injunction dissolved and leave to defendant to file suggestion of damages. 879—Shoenberger v. Mann; report of sale filed; sale set aside and a resale ordered. 931—Correll v. Correll; decree of divorce. 797 s—Furness v. McGovern et al.; report of Court; bill dismissed, and appeal; bond $200 in 20 days. 732 s—Covert v. Silverman; rule on complainant to file new injunction bond, to be filed on the 12th inst., at 2 p. m.; or in default judgment to be dismissed. 1,117—Molandy v. Austin; decree of Dec. 3, 1872, amended.

NEW SUITS.

41,620—Solomon and Abraham Hirsh v. South Chicago Turnverein, Charles E. Harder, Hy. Hafer, Alexander Kost, Adolph Hoenburg, Charles Wagner, and Augustus Boeltzer; injunction restraining the defendants from disturbing the complainants in the occupation of No. 168 Twenty-second street and the building attached thereto, and from excavating the soil near enough to said buildings to endanger them, and from encumbering the sidewalk in front thereof. E. H. Jenks, attorney. 41,621—Mathilde v. Charles Klemm; divorce. 41,622—George H. Cole v. James E. Cole; judgment of confession on a note of $191.38. 41,623—S. Barnes & Co. v. Lamar Insurance Co.; assumpsit, $5,000; Shufeldt & Ball, attorneys. 41,625—Thomas Wight, George B. Dunton, and Daniel Gardner v. Wilson Stanley and Joshua Eyson; assumpsit, $1,500; Dent & Black, attorneys. 41,624—Holmes, Eyson & Co. v. H. R. Gard; assumpsit, $5,000; Gary Bros. 41,626—Robert Robinson v. George W. Ackford; case, $1,000; Story & King, attorneys. 41,627—Royal B. Townley v. E. K. Bickford and William Ruger; assumpsit, $500; Hitchcock, Dupee & Evaris, attorneys. 41,628—Matthew McCabe v. Frank F. Hawkins, Thomas R. Williams and Volney E. Russo; assumpsit, $600; Rich & Noble, attorneys. 41,629—Benjamin F. Ray v. Geo. W. Ward et al.; injunction to enjoin the selling of land under a judgment already satisfied; Oatzes, Becker & Dale, attorneys. 41,630—John Clark Hilton v. Great Western Telegraph Company; assumpsit; $6,000. E. A. Small, attorney. 41,631—Frank Schweinfarth et al. v. H. C. Childs and T. T. Verdier; injunction to restrain payment to the defendants by the Board of County Commissioners of account of bread for the poor; Barber & Lacknor, attorneys. 41,632—Frederick Kleinhaus v. Same; petition for same. 41,633—Reuben Pierce & Co. v. Henry Bollvin, William F. Bollvin, and William Simpson; assumpsit; $1,000. Walter Burnham, attorney. 41,634—David A. Dickinson and Hannah M., his wife, v. George H. Hess; assumpsit; $500; Fred. C. Ingalls, attorney.

THE CIRCUIT COURT.

[Judge Booth.]

LAW—903—Field v. Tracy; jury return verdict for plaintiff, damages $256.25; defendant moves for new trial. 1,613—Clapp v. Story; dismissed by plaintiff. 3,725—Lotter v. Green; same. 1,049—Breidtv. McKenzie; death of plaintiff suggested by plaintiff's attorney, and Paulina Breidt named as executrix. 780—Singer Manufacturing Company v. Mitchell; dismissed by plaintiff. 2,819—Pope v. Fordyce; L. L. Palmer has papers G. N. 2,313—C., C. & I. C. R. R. Co. v. H. B. Hurd; motion for new trial overruled, and award of jury confirmed; petitioners pray an appeal until Feb. 1 to prepare bill of exceptions; bond $500. 851—Fahrenkrug v. Eclectic Life Insurance Co.; jury trial; jury to seal verdict. 5,004—Christoph v. Turney et al.; dismissed by plaintiff.

Call, 961 to 980 inclusive.

[Judge Tree.]

—Brewer v. White; on motion, affidavit and notice; leave to file declaration denied, and rule to plead in ten days. Lusk v. Carter; jury trial resumed.

[Judge Williams.]

CHANCERY—679—LeBrun v. Lore et al.; depositions of Pierre LeBrun, and Peter and Mary Lore, to be spread at large upon records. 634—Hubbard, Jr. v. Thomas; rule to show cause continued to Friday morning. 577—Cochrane v. Olmsted et al.; report of special Master filed and confirmed. 443—Orthel v. Carlos Wright.

[Judge Farwell.]

G. N. 4,069—Motion to dissolve injunction overruled, for continuance to next term granted; cause set for first Tuesday in January. B. B. 1—McClure v. Dunham; final decree. 650—Rees et al. v. Peltzer et al.; decree dismissing suit; bond for $20,000 dismissed.

NEW SUITS.

5,163—Henderson v. Kirby et al.; appeal. 5,164—In the matter of the appointment of appraisers for Lincoln Park; further papers filed. 5,165—Withheld for service. 5,166—Frederica Schmidt v. Heinrich Schmidt, Joseph Wollmann, and Amelia Paul; bill for divorce, for partition of real estate and enjoining the sale of property belonging to the defendant Heinrich; Mr. A. Parks & Son. 5,167—Jabez E. Sanford v. Anna L. Wilson; bill to take account of the sale to complainant for $12,000 by Marie E. Wilson of the east half of Lot 1 in Block 25, Wolcott's Addition, and of the south half of Block 38 in Hoxie's Addition, and Marie Wilson being now deceased, and the title found to be in others. 5,168—F. A. Weage, C. B. Kirtland, and G. W. Ordway v. Michigan Central Railroad Company; case; $15,000; Hitchcock, Dupee, and Evaris, attorneys. 5,169—Hy. M. McCann, Moses J. Fitch, and C. E. Converse, v. Same; case, $500; same attorneys. 5,170—Daniel Brewer v. John White et al.; notice of motion to file new papers; Story & King, attorneys. 5,171—N. E. Platt, Edwin Thorn, and I. N. Maynard v. The Bay Furnace Company; assumpsit, $20,000; E. W. Evans, attorney. 5,172—John Van Pelt v. Lander & McCormick et al.; petition to enforce mechanic's lien on Lots 4 and 5, in Block 5, Wolcott's Addition, for $398.12. 5,173—Martin C. Hale v. Same; same for $463; C. Brownell, attorney. 5,174—Same v. Eugene F. Henshaw et al.; Same on part of Lots 20, 21, 32, in Henshaw & McCord's Subdivision, and part of Lots 31 and 32, in the east part of Ellis' Addition (intersection of Thirty-eighth street and Vincennes avenue), for $262.30; same attorney. 5,175 to 5,183 inclusive; same attorney. 5,184—Bradley, Fisher & Manufacturing and Supply Company v. James McGinley, assumpsit, $500; Wm. Yocke, attorney.

A SHARP HORSE TRADE.

The horse market at the corner of Twelfth and Desplaines streets is looked upon by two countrymen as a place that should be avoided. The two ruralites were victimized by men who loiter around the market, and have been unable to recover their horses or money. The game played by the sharpers in both instances was this: They represented that a certain fellow had a valuable horse which he would not sell for any money, but that the countryman might be able, with a little persuasion, to purchase the animal for $80. The swindler wanted the horse, and would give $20 more than was paid for him. The countrymen were overjoyed at the prospect of making $20 so easily, and bargained for the horse and bought it, one giving his own animal and $45 to boot, and the other his horse, wagon, and harness. Both were given an order on the proprietor of a stable near the western city limits, and of course, when they went there, were informed that the person who signed the order had no animal at the place. Justice Walsh was appealed to, but he could do nothing for them.

BUCKING AGAINST A BRACE.

A German, named Frank Lendquest, recently from Lake Superior, was swindled right and left in this city yesterday. He first entered a mock-auction shop, and the "stool-pigeons" induced him to invest $20 in a time-keeper worth $2,50. He was informed that the watch was worth $80, and sold to go to another auctioneer and have it sold and bought for $60, the profits to be pigeon accompanied him, and the watch was put up and knocked down for $2. While leaving the place, a "steever" for a brace faro house made Lendquest's acquaintance, and volunteered to show him a lottery game which was "a sure thing." They went to No. 28 Clinton street, and the victim invested $255 in *rouge et noir*—"black I win; red you lose." This game, as played at No. 28 Clinton street, is as big a fraud as bunko. The black and red cards are placed alternately, with the backs uppermost. A brace-box enables the dealer to turn up red or black at his pleasure, and the person betting many times will surely give the dealer upon entering the place and not waste time in trying to "beat" the bank.

AMUSEMENTS.

SCOTT-SIDDONS.

The preparations made for the reappearance to-morrow night in the Union Park Congregational Church of Mrs. Scott-Siddons proves that the managers of the Star Course have made no mistake in securing her so soon after her *debut*, for the crowded house which greeted her on that occasion promises to be repeated. The selections made are entirely new, but their character is such as to call forth a full display of her varied powers, the programme being as follows:

PART FIRST.

Scenes from "Much Ado About Nothing"...Shakspeare
"The Wreck of the Hesperus"...Longfellow
Scenes from "Romeo and Juliet"...Shakspeare

PART SECOND.

"The Jackdaw of Rheims"...Ingoldsby Legends
"Hubert and Arthur," from "King John"...Shakspeare
Scenes from "The School for Scandal"...Sheridan

A Novelty in Cigar Boxes.

This city is rapidly becoming the Mecca toward which every inventor naturally turns his face whenever he has wrought out any new and practicable idea which he desires to introduce effectually to the notice of his fellow-men. It would seem that the box in present use for packing cigars is all that could be desired for the purpose; but an economically-disposed Yankee has lately patentined a box, the sides and top of which are made of straw board, at a saving of one-third the cost of an all wooden one, and, in accordance with the natural laws of gravitation, has found his way to Chicago, and has organized a stock company for the manufacture and sale of the same. We have been the natural laws of gravitation, has found his way to Chicago, and has organized a stock company for the manufacture and sale of the same. We have been the natural laws of gravitation, has found his way to Chicago, and has organized a stock company for the manufacture and sale of the same. We are making and selling under this patent, and all testify to the entire utility and adaptation of these boxes to the requirements of the trade, especially in retaining the aroma, and curing the cigars. The Chicago Company propose to commence manufacturing early in the ensuing year, and have every faith that the cheapness and desirability of their new box will bring it into general favor with both dealers and consumers. For further notice see future issues of this paper.

No Female Suffrage Yet,

but something far better and more valuable, a Wilson Sewing Machine for every wife and mother in the Union, and at the low price of $50 each for the full-finished machine. People ask why the Wilson, a leading machine in all respects, can be sold for $50. The answer is easy and direct,—because its proprietors do not belong to a great "ring" whose purpose it is to keep up the price of sewing machines. They are the true friends of the people, and prove their sincerity in a way that cannot be misunderstood. Salesroom at No. 378 West Madison street, Chicago, and in all other cities in the United States. The Company want agents in country towns.

Books for the Holidays.

Purchasers in quest of choice books for holiday gift-making will find at Edward Buehler's, No. 371 Wabash avenue, near the Post Office, a very choice collection of books of foreign literature, works of art, and music scores. Tourists and returned travellers and students of European languages will find Mr. Buehler's stock of the best foreign, standard, and classic works worth inspection, and to fill a desideratum long confessed here. He has made especial preparation for the holidays.

H. A. Elkins' Private Collection.

The rare opportunity in this city of purchasing from a private collection of an experienced artist comes nicely before the holidays. This afternoon and evening, H. A. Elkins will offer his works of art unreservedly at No. 970 Wabash avenue, including original paintings by Lackenmitz, Gehl, Lowman, Gale, James M. Hart, Ruyter, Rondel, and our best local artists.

A New Bank.

Attention is called to the advertisement, in another column of to-day's TRIBUNE, of the Monroe Bank of Miller, Watson & Co., situated at No. 143 Monroe street. The institution is now ready for business.

Cod Liver Oil.

Hazard & Caswell's Cod Liver Oil is the best.

Railway Accident.

DETROIT, Dec. 11.—The Great Western train west, yesterday, jumped the track at Longwood. No passengers were seriously hurt, but the baggageman was severely, if not fatally injured. The passengers reached Detroit this morning.

THE WINSLOW AFFAIR.

Further Particulars---The Milwaukee Avenue Savings Bank.

Rumored Flight of Winslow to China---A Card from Colonel Jacobson.

It is due to the reputation and standing Ferd. B. Winslow enjoyed up to the time of his leaving the city, to state that he has created the most profound sensation of his life thus far. There are none among his later acquaintances and business associates but are taken with complete surprise at the sudden developments that have converted the dashing banker and operator into a fugitive. The most unfortunate victims of the surprise are the humbler class of his Scandinavian countrymen who had trusted him implicitly, and too implicitly even to be shaken by the rumors that have been afloat in community for the past three or four weeks, for it seems strange that there were no open tokens of uneasiness among these savings depositors until the whole story had been told in the daily press, and uneasiness came too late to bring precaution with it. Certain merchants, especially dealers in high-priced luxuries, were, yesterday, suddenly remembering the extent and lavishness of some of Mr. Winslow's credit orders made immediately before leaving the city. One of them finds new light thrown on an unliquidated account of $300 for fine wines, cordials, and cigars, he filled with great alacrity for Mr. W. on the day before the brisk Dane in the velvet coat went away from Chicago, and other share his grief.

The small savings bank, No. 17 Milwaukee avenue, occupying one-half the premises of a plain brick store, was, yesterday, for the first time visited by an assemblage of Winslow's victims, Scandinavians resident in that vicinity, who looked sadly up at a placard on the door, "Suspended," and quietly and without demonstration exchanged experiences and losses. The bank throughout the day was thus attended, and at times by numerous women, who more freely indulged the privilege of their sex in speaking their minds, and would have made an interview with Mr. Winslow extremely unpleasant for him. One crippled man, named Jacob Jacobson, was in great distress, and his tears flowed copiously. The poor fellow has $1,800 deposited with Mr. Winslow, and all his available funds wherewith to support his family consist of fifty cents. Several parallel cases were heard of, most of Mr. Winslow's depositors being poor workingmen, who were confident that their money was in the safest hands, in the keeping of their prosperous countryman. It was also rumored that the genial proprietor of the *Skandinaven*, Mr. Anderson, had been mulcted in the sum of $1,000 by Mr. Winslow, but this is emphatically denied by Mr. Anderson, who says that he had no connection whatever with Winslow. The friends of the missing banker assert that he is on his way back to Chicago, but this is doubted, as despatches have been received in this city stating that Winslow had embarked for China, and a Danish paper published at Copenhagen also makes the assertion that he has gone to China with the sum of £4,000 in his possession.

The following announcement appeared in to-day's Scandinavian papers, and will explain itself:

COLONEL JACOBSON'S CARD.

The difficulties of F. B. Winslow, of the Scandinavian National Bank, do not in the least affect the title to Winslow, Jacobson & Tallman's and Winslow's & Jacobson's Subdivisions. Mr. Tallman and myself, nearly two months ago, bought the interest of Mr. Winslow in his land, and I have a complete abstract of the same, which shows that the title is in the name of Mr. Tallman and myself. These papers I will be happy to show to any one interested. A. JACOBSON.

The intensest sympathy is felt for Mr. Winslow's family, upon whom the blow falls with the same suddenness as upon the community. Both in his household and among his acquaintances the absentee has made popular qualities serve in place of what is now apparent, the absence of more solid traits; and, if he has gone to China, he will be sure immediately to set on foot what will ripen into a fresh astonishment for the almond-eyed Celestials. He is travelling with a trained troupe of marvels designed to astonish his fellow-men, comprised of one member—himself.

THE CITY IN BRIEF.

The County Clerk issued fifteen marriage licenses yesterday.

Mr. Henry Morehouse preaches to-night at the First Baptist Church, on Wabash avenue, near Hubbard court.

Captain Hickey's report for November records 625 arrests in the First Police District during the month.

Justice Scully fined Simon Foreham $20, yesterday, for allowing people to play billiards in his saloon on Sunday.

Eleven inmates of two houses of prostitution on South Clark street subscribed $145 to the City Treasury, yesterday, through the medium of Justice Bunyon's Court.

The ladies of the Aid Society will hold a festival in the Presbyterian Church at Oxford on the 27th of December. Pleasure-seekers and all who desire to help a good cause are invited.

The residence of Mrs. L. Patch, No. 267 Fulton street, was entered by sneak thieves on Tuesday afternoon, during the temporary absence of the family, and robbed of about $200 worth of furs and jewelry.

The Board of County Commissioners received several bids, yesterday, for furnishing supplies to the county institutions for the ensuing year. No contracts will be awarded until next Monday.

The alarm from Box No. 241, at 6 o'clock last evening, was occasioned by fire in the one-story frame dwelling on the north-west corner of Lincoln street and Chicago avenue. The building is owned and occupied by Nathan Smith. Loss, $200; no insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

John Mitchell, of No. 109 West Polk street, who was employed at the stone yard of Reed & Toleston, at Twenty-second street bridge, was severely injured yesterday morning. His right arm was drawn into a revolving shaft, and broken in two places.

Literary and dramatic entertainments are to be given at Good Templar's Hall, corner of Seymour and Lake streets, the proceeds to be applied towards completing and furnishing the hall. The drama of the "Drunkard's Warning" will be given this evening and to-morrow night.

The room of William McGregor, in the boarding house No. 203 South Desplaines street, was entered yesterday by a thief, who stole four silver watches, worth $140. Another room was visited by the same individual, and a valise containing a writing desk worth $30, was appropriated by him.

In the real estate article in last Sunday's TRIBUNE, some incorrect statements were made with reference to the Third National Bank, the present location of which is at No. 376 Wabash avenue, instead of No. 475, as stated, and $9,000 rent will be paid, instead of $11,000, for the proposed office to be occupied.

A grand matinee will be given at Myers' Opera House to-morrow afternoon, between 3 and 5 o'clock, by the Illinois Suffrage Society, at which the representative women of England and America will appear. Mrs. Stanton will make an address, and Miss Emily Faithful has kindly consented to give some dramatic readings from Dickens and Tennyson, including Mrs. Candle's famous curtain-lecture.

An error of the types in yesterday's TRIBUNE, in connection with the report of the Germania Insurance Company meeting, made Mr. Silverman express his lack of confidence in the integrity of J. Y. Scammon. Mr. Silverman was not at the meeting, and did not make the statement in question. It was Mr. Seeleman who made use of the language in reference to Scammon.

Mrs. Kate N. Doggett has consented to give some Art Readings at the Chicago Christian Union Rooms, No. 758 Michigan avenue, beginning this evening at 7½ o'clock. Her collection of foreign photographs are without doubt the largest and richest in the city of Chicago, and her wide acquaintance with art will make her explanations of these views very interesting and valuable. It is hoped a large number will avail themselves of tho opportunity.

The funeral of John Strickler, late engineer of the fire engine William James, took place at noon yesterday, from his late residence, No. 118 West Adams street. It was attended by Assistant Marshals Benner and Petrie, Captain Ben Bullwinkle, and the entire Insurance Patrol Company, ninety-one members of the Fire Department, and fifteen carriages containing friends of deceased. The remains were interred at Rosehill Cemetery.

Candidates for admission to the City Normal School will be examined on Friday, Dec. 20 commencing at 9 o'clock a. m., at the Normal School Building, West Monroe street, near Halsted. Candidates must be at least 16 years of age, and bring satisfactory testimonials. It is hoped that a large class will enter, since at present it is found difficult to secure a full supply of competent teachers. The examination of candidates for positions as teachers will occur at the same time and place.

Between 2 and 3 o'clock on Tuesday morning, the residence of Mr. Francis Edwards, on Vernon avenue, near Thirty-eighth street, was entered by five burglars, three of whom held pistols to the heads of the frightened occupants, while the other two ransacked the house. A check for $2,500 and $2 in money were taken, but payment on the former has been stopped. Mr. Edwards said he recognized the faces of some of the cracksmen.

A well-appearing young fellow named William Stone, who has been hanging about the Third Police Precinct for some weeks without having any visible means of support, was brought before Justice Banyon by Sergeant Fitzpatrick, yesterday, and was fined $25 for vagrancy, and $25 for carrying concealed weapons. A gold watch and chain, and two valuable Colt's pistols belonging to him, are in the possession of the Custodian of Stolen Property.

By the falling of a scaffold in the new Turner Hall building, on North Clark street, at 11 o'clock yesterday forenoon, three plasterers were precipitated to the ground, a distance of forty feet. All were more or less severely injured. Their names and residences are as follows: Patrick Gallagher, No. 59 Larrabee street; James McLane, No. 108 Huron street; Daniel Murphy, Crosby street, near Larrabee. It is feared that Gallagher cannot survive, as he sustained serious internal injuries.

A murderously-inclined scoundrel, named Louis Rodier, was fined $100 by Justice Banyon, yesterday, for carrying a concealed weapon. It was one of the most formidable engines of destruction ever produced in Court, being composed of a two-pound chunk of lead encased in a leather bag. Rodier was about to use it upon a man who was unfortunate enough to become involved in a quarrel with him, when Mr. H. W. DeWitt interfered, and wrenched it out of his hand. The Court complimented Mr. DeWitt on his courageous conduct.

On Tuesday afternoon, Mrs. Connelly, who lives on Clayton street, between Ashland avenue and Paulina street, went out to buy some groceries, leaving her three children in the kitchen. When she returned, half an hour subsequently, she found that the eldest, a girl aged 4 years, was horribly burned. Her clothes had taken fire by coming in contact with the stove, and no assistance being at hand, every garment was reduced to ashes, and the little one's flesh blistered almost to the bones. The child died at 11 o'clock in the evening.

Thomas White, who was arrested upon suspicion of having been implicated in the jewelry robbery of Kuhn's Hotel, was arraigned before Justice Scully yesterday, and held in $5,000 bail for a further hearing this morning. The Superintendent of Police did not desire to have the prisoner brought before the Court, but White's friends employed an attorney, and compelled him to do it. If White participated in the robbery, his assistant, who carried off the watches and bracelets, is now aware of White's arrest, and will probably never be caught. The man arrested at Ft. Wayne while trying to sell some gold watches, whose arrest was mentioned in Tuesday's TRIBUNE, was released from custody, yesterday, it having been proven that he knew nothing of the Kuhn Hotel robbery, and that the watches he offered for sale were not the ones stolen from that establishment.

EVANSTON.

The catalogue of the Northwestern University, now in press, will contain seven wood cuts of the different buildings directly and indirectly connected with the University, as follows: The University, the Preparatory Department, Dempster Hall, the Chicago Medical College, the University Club House, Heck Hall, and the Ladies' College Building. The advertisements that have marred the appearance of the catalogue for the last two years have been expunged, and the new catalogue, containing eighty pages, will be a great improvement in typographical execution on all that have been previously issued.

This village is to be favored with a call by John G. Saxe this evening, under the auspices of the Evanston Star Lecture Course. His subject will be "Yankee Land."

Three Men Killed.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Dec. 11.—Alexander Donaldson, George Bentley, and a man named Kelly, laborers on the Albany & Susquehanna Railroad, were killed by the caving in of a gravel bank at Osborn Hollow.

The Elgin, Ill., Insane Asylum has 184 inmates. The annual report is now being prepared.

Marie Baxter and five children reached Detroit from Chicago on Tuesday night, searching for a runaway husband and father. They had no money, and not finding Mr. Baxter, were sent to the County House.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

New York Financial News.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—Money was active and close at 7 per cent to 1-32, closing at 7 coin.

Sterling strong at 108½ for long and 110¾ for short sight.

Gold was firmer; opened at 112¾, advanced to 112⅞, and closed at 112⅝@112¾. Loans, 3@2 per cent for carrying and flat to 1-32 for use. Clearings, 70 millions. Treasury disbursements, $159,000. There is some talk of approaching exports.

Governments were about ⅛ better, but quiet. None were purchased by the Treasury. State securities were strong on Tennessees, otherwise dull.

Stock speculation was marked by activity and wide fluctuations in a few shares, while the general list was dull and firm within the range of ⅛ to 1¼ per cent advance. Pacific Mail was very active, opening at 79¾, touching 80, reacting to 77⅞, and closing at 79 bid and 79¾ asked. Borrowers of the stock find it difficult to obtain. Hannibal & St. Joseph opened at 44, fell to 41, and closed at 41⅝; the preferred advancing from 66½ to 69¾. Western Union was active, rising from 77¾ to 79½, closing at 78¾. Wabash was active, and advanced from 70 to 71½, while Hartford and Erie rose from 8¾ to 9¼. The whole market closed firm.

Sterling 108¾.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Coupons, '81	117½	Coupons, '67	116½
5-20s of '62	113	Coupons, '68	116¾
Coupons, '64	113½	New 5s	110¾
Coupons, '65	115½	Currency 6s	122¾
Coupons, '65 (new)	115½		

STATE BONDS.

Missouris	93	Virginias, old	47
Tennessees, old	73½	North Carolinas, old	34½
Tennessees, new	62½	North Carolinas, new	30
Virginias, new	50		

STOCKS.

Canton	34	St. Paul pfd	78¾
W. U. Tel	78¾	Wabash	71¾
Quicksilver	48¾	Wabash pfd	84
Adams Express	92¾	Fort Wayne	93
Wells Fargo	88	New Haven	14
American Express	67	Terre Haute pfd	35
United States Ex	81¾	Chicago & Alton	111¾
Pacific Mail	79	C. &

MONEY AND COMMERCE.

MONETARY.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Dec. 11.

The aspect of local finances continues to improve. Deposits at the banks are gradually increasing, collections in the country are improvcressing, collections in the country are improving, and liabilities maturing in banks are being more promptly met. As the marketing of hogs and cattle places more money in the hands of farmers, it seems probable that this will be the tendency of affairs until the pork and beef packing culminate about the first half of January. After that, the semi-annual interest and dividend disbursements in the Eastern cities will have some effect to make money easier there, and to some extent also in the West. The effect, thus far, on local finance is most perceptible in the diminishing amount of legitimate commercial paper offered in the open market. There is a good deal of "accommodation paper" afloat yet, which has good endorsers, but was made by parties of less substantial credit. This kind of paper is offered at 1¾ per cent per month. On first-class collaterals, money is now to be had in the open market at 10 per cent per annum.

New York exchange was somewhat weaker today, and sold between banks at 25c and 50c per $1,000 premium.

SILVER FOR SPECIE RESUMPTION.

The recommendation of the Secretary of the Treasury that silver be practically demonetized by prohibiting its coinage at the mint, except for exportation, has a more important bearing on the question of specie resumption than would appear at first glance. The movement to demonetize silver in Germany and Holland has already caused a decline in its value in London as compared to gold, and its value in America, as compared to gold, will soon make a still greater decline. The cause of this wider difference. It is well understood that the United States are fast becoming the great source of silver supply for the whole world. It is now four times since the famous Comstock lode in Nevada was discovered, and yet this one lode yields now at the rate of $15,000,000 of silver bullion per annum.

The product of the Emma and other Salt Lake mines, and of the Silver Islet in Lake Superior, are increasing from year to year, to say nothing of new and important discoveries that are being made in all these regions from time to time.

The decline in the value of silver as compared to gold in Europe is, therefore, affecting a commodity the product of which is every year becoming greater in the United States. The decline of the commercial value of silver, as compared to gold, will furnish an easy step for the return to specie payments, if the relative legal tender values of gold and silver are continued in this country, and if the coinage of silver is not prohibited in accordance with Mr. Boutwell's recommendation. The commercial value of silver coin for exportation is now nearly 6 per cent less than its value as a legal-tender in the United States. If the increase of its production here, and the movement to demonetize it in Europe should—as is not improbable—reduce the commercial value to 10 to 12 per cent below its legal-tender value here, it would stand in about the same relation of exchangeable value to gold as greenbacks do now. If the law were changed so as to make silver coin of the United States a legal tender for any sum instead of being restricted to small amounts as now, we could resume specie payments in silver coin without measurable expanding the present premium on gold or greenbacks. The legal-tender value of silver being so much greater here than its commercial value for exportation, it would not leave us so readily as gold, but the silver coinage would accumulate in this country, and make a specie currency at par with greenbacks. On a basis of silver coin of the United States for redemptions of greenbacks and National Bank notes, specie resumption would be comparatively easy. When this stage was reached, the value of greenbacks would not fluctuate any more, as it does now. The premium on gold over greenbacks would remain fixed at the difference between the commercial values of gold and silver.

THE SCANDINAVIAN NATIONAL BANK.

The following is a statement taken to-day (Dec. 11), from the books of the Scandinavian National Bank, showing the footings of its accounts on the evening of Dec. 9, the evening on which it closed its doors. This shows that, as was rumored, the cash and exchange that were on hand on Nov. 28, and which would at that time have paid 37 per cent of the deposits, had dwindled down until the aggregate of the cash and exchange on hand at the time the bank closed would pay less than 19 per cent of the deposits. The aggregate of the deposits has been reduced from over $300,000 then to the total of $229,523.38 now, showing that the shrewd ones have been quietly drawing their money out for the last two weeks. The Chicago and other American stockholders who have never paid in a cent of money on their stock, should pay in at once the amount of their notes given for the same and which notes are among the "Bills discounted" in the bank, to the amount of probably $40,000. This would make 18 per cent more cash on the deposits, and the remaining 68 per cent to pay depositors in full can probably be realized in a few months out of the remaining bills receivable and resources.

Bills discounted	$343,247.99
Due from Commercial National Bank	525.59
Due from National Broadway Bank, N. Y.	745.21
Due from Schuh & Isaacson	481.01
Due from Smith, Gray & Co.	2,947.89
Due from Winslow & Co.	533.72
Due from L. Hoffman	55,183.71
Due from various banks and bankers	29,946.60
Other bills receivable	42,800.46
Cash on hand	15,000.00
U. S. bonds	14,750.00
Premium on bonds	15,784.56
Expense account	100.48
Taxes paid	3,362.50
Stationery and fixtures	197.17
Revenue stamps	
Total	$560,676.70
LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock	$225,000.00
Interest	14,000.64
Commercial deposits	9,556.39
Exchange	$10,033.14
Certificates of deposit	63,220.33
Savings deposits	126,176.78
Steamship agency	29,946.86
Foreign correspondents	229,523.38
	135,000.00
Circulating notes	47,585.88
Sundry liabilities	
Total	$560,676.70

LOCAL STOCK AND BOND MARKET.

Messrs. Lunt, Preston & Kean quote as follows, this afternoon:

	Buying.	Selling.
U. S. 6s of '81	117¾	118
5-20s of '62, ex. int	113¾	113
5-20s of '64, ex. int	113¾	113
5-20s of '65, ex. int	113¾	113½
5-20s of '65, Jan. and July	113¾	113½
5-20s of '67, Jan. and July	113¾	113½
5-20s of '68, Jan. and July	113¾	113½
10-40s	109¼	109½
U. S. 5s (new issue), ex. int	110¾	110¾
U. S. currency 6s	113¾	113¾
Northern Pacific Gold 7-30s	100 and int.	
Chicago City 7s	99¾ and int.	
Cook County 7s		
Illinois, County and Township 10s	100 @ 110½	
Sterling Exchange, (large drafts)		

REAL ESTATE.

The following instruments were filed for record on Wednesday, Dec. 11:

CITY PROPERTY.

N ¼ of Lot 3, in Block 17, of Ogden's Addition, dated Oct. 6; consideration, $5,000.

Homer st, between Honshaw and Bradwell sts, s f, Lots 36 to 47, dated Dec. 6; consideration, $3,600.

Butterfield st, between Thirtieth and Thirty-first st, e f, 25 ft to alley. dated Dec. 6; consideration, $3,000.

Same as the above, dated Dec. 6; consideration, $3,000.

Blue Island av, 168 ft sw of Wood st, s f, 24x100 ft, dated Sept. 23; consideration, $1,800.

Park av, between Robey and Lincoln sts, s f, 25 ft to alley, dated Dec. 7; consideration, $2,600.

The premises No. 58 Twenty-eighth st, dated Dec. 10; consideration, $2,900.

Blue Island av, 216 ft s w of Paulina st, s f, 24x100 ft, dated Oct. 10; consideration, $1,800.

Morgan st, between Polk and Taylor sts, e f, 25 ft to alley, dated Dec. 11; consideration, $1,600.

Thirty-first st, between Indiana and Prairie avs, n f, 50 by 160 ft, dated Nov. 13; consideration, $12,000.

Lot 7 in Ovitt's Lots 44 to 52, in McIlroy's, w ½ w ¼ Sec 1, 39, 13, dated Dec. 9; consideration, $3,000.

W 2 ft of e ¼ Lot 14, in Block 50, of s e ¼ Sec 21, 39, 14, dated Dec. 9; consideration, $1,550.

State st, between Thirty-first and Thirty-second sts, e f, 25x118 ft, dated Nov. 24; consideration, $3,000.

Roosevelt st, s w corner of Thirty-third st, Lot 12, except n 3 ft, dated Dec. 10; consideration, $5,000.

The premises No. 1136 Wabash av, dated Dec. 1; consideration, $13,000.

Vernon st, s of Thirty-seventh st, e f, 50 feet to alley, dated June 3; consideration, $4,375.

Lot 30, in Block 1, of Holstein, dated Dec. 10; consideration, $450.

Rutledge st, between Jefferson and Clinton sts, s f, 25 x119 ft, dated Dec. 9; consideration, $1,200.

Lots 36 and 37, in Block 13, of s ½ Sec 21, 39, 14, dated Oct. 26; consideration, $1,050.

Blue Island av, 96 ft s w of Wood st, s f, 24x100 ft, dated Sept. 26; consideration, $1,800.

West Van Buren st, 44 ft east of Marshfield av, s f, 22x86 ft, dated Oct. 19; consideration, $9,000.

Undivided ½ of n ½ of s ½ of n e ¼ Sec 2, 39, 13, dated Dec. 2; consideration, $8,750.

Lots 23 to 25, in Block 4 of Eberhart and Wilber's Block 25, Sec 7, 39, 14, dated Aug. 31; consideration, $3,200.

Arnold st, between Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth sts, s f, 25 ft to alley, dated Dec. 9; consideration, $1,400.

NORTH OF CITY LIMITS.

Lot 29, in Reynolds' 5 acres of Block 14, of s ½ Sec 20, 40, 14, dated Aug. 15; consideration, $1,000.

Lot 27, in Block 1, in Elias Olsen's 8 acres of s ½ n w ¼ Sec 29, 40, 14, dated Oct. 19; consideration, $400.

Lot 21, in Block 1, in same subdivision, dated Nov. 20; consideration, $200.

SOUTH OF CITY LIMITS.

Lot 8, in Block 3 of Pick's Lots 6 to 10, in Turner's Subdivision in n e ¼ of s e ¼ Sec 9, 39, 14, dated Nov. 11; consideration, $250.

Lots 6 to 16, 21 to 23, and 25 to 28, of Hinckley's Subdivision of n w ¼ of s e ¼ Sec 8, 36, 14, dated Dec. 7; consideration, $6,000.

Lots 46 and 47, in Block 1, of Rosedale, dated Oct. 20; consideration, $200.

School st, 75 ft south of Sixty-first st, w f, 25 ft to railroad, dated Dec. 10; consideration, $200.

Fourteen Lots in Flora's Lots 4 to 7, of Kerfoot's n ½ of n e ¼ Sec 1, 35, 13, dated Nov. 26; consideration, $4,200.

WEST OF CITY LIMITS.

Ethrock place, n w cor of Powell av, 11x2117 ft, dated Sept. 5; consideration, $5,000.

COMMERCIAL.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Dec. 11.

The following were the receipts and shipments of the leading articles of produce in this city during the past twenty-four hours, and for the corresponding date a year ago:

	RECEIPTS.		SHIPMENTS.	
	1872.	1871.	1872.	1871.
Flour, brls	7,488	4,699	5,962	8,745
Wheat, bu	64,100	97,000	19,332	1,400
Corn, bu	125,000	133,059	7,346	2,981
Oats, bu	35,880	39,996	21,800	5,293
Barley, bu	8,000	8,719	1,500	1,218
Rye, bu	13,310	18,000	22,279	1,761
Grass seed, lbs	28,800	37,730	22,200	22,819
Flax seed, lbs	70,856		38,254	19,200
Broom corn, lbs	75,400	18,170	1638,970	1236,960
Cured meats, lbs	203,630	243,070		
Beef, brls	40	65		745
Pork, brls	403	547	757,317	588,094
Lard, lbs	42,600	269,400	5,000	
Tallow, lbs	17,500	31,130	25,020	5,009
Butter, lbs	45,150	32,444	452	1,855
Dressed hogs, No	347	1,016		4,673
Cattle, No	15,194	27,946	4,008	
Sheep, No	2,733	3,050	768	322
Hides, pcs	1,228	1,228		849
Highwines, brls	209,846	154,109	91,943	97,686
Wool, lbs	167	469	800	131
Potatoes, bu	85,000	79,411	899,740	141,539
Timber, m. feet	1,450	5,174		745
Shingles, m	310	218	1,916	150
Lath, m	1,190	490	1,000	101
Salt, brls		250	2,122	2,646

Withdrawn from store yesterday for city consumption: 1,765 bu wheat; 2,774 bu corn; 2,679 bu oats; 554 bu rye; 6,357 bu barley.

The following grain has been inspected into store this morning, up to 10 o'clock: 138 cars wheat; 114 cars corn; 15 cars oats; 7 cars rye; 33 cars barley. Total, 312 cars, or 119,000 bu.

GRAIN WAREHOUSE STATEMENT.

We published last week a report of the Committee recently appointed by the Board of Trade to examine the condition of our grain warehouses. That report showed that the accounts of Flint, Thompson & Co., running the Rock Island Elevators, were all right. The Committee now give an equally satisfactory report of the houses noted below, and reports from other elevators will follow in a few days:

CHICAGO, Dec. 10, 1872.

J. W. Preston, Esq., President Board of Trade:

Your Committee appointed to examine the weighing of grain in elevator firms as shall express a desire to have them do so, beg leave to report:

That, by invitation of Messrs. Armour, Wheeler & Co., they have examined the books of that firm, and find Co., they have examined the books of that firm, and find that on the 5th inst. they had outstanding receipts for the grain as follows:

	Bushels.	Bushels.
For No. 1 spring wheat	11,444.10	
For No. 2 spring wheat	242,203.80	
For No. 3 spring wheat	60,310.30	
For rejected spring	10,621.40	
		324,579.10
For No. 2 oats	64,540	
For regular oats	6,097	
		70,610
For No. 1 rye	333	
For No. 2 rye	7,970	
		8,303
For No. 2 barley	70,705	
For No. 3 barley	28,151	
For rejected barley	9,295	
		108,211
		511,703

Your Committee would state that one of the elevators (the Air Line) belonging to this firm is in process of being repaired, and is empty.

"Galena" is therefore being discharged nearly to its full capacity in order to facilitate the loading of vessels by the Northwestern Railroad, and now contains about one half a million bushels of grain. In consequence of this, it is not practicable, at Messrs. Munger, Wheeler & Co.'s request, to count out the grain at present. These elevators are new, having been built since the fire, and are very full of grain taken into them until August last. From this fact, and from the further fact that their books are so kept as to render investigation comparatively easy, and from a careful estimate made by an expert on the afternoon of the 7th inst., of the amount of each grade of grain actually in the bins at that time, it is not difficult to determine with a considerable degree of certainty that they have on hand the proper amount of each grade of grain to answer to all the specific outstanding for the same. Your Committee think proper to state that this firm cannot, by a careful estimate made by an expert, from information comparatively easy, and from perforations, all receipts on which grain has been delivered, at the same time furnishing the State Register with a schedule of such receipts, as well as with the receipts themselves, thereby rendering the reissuing of such receipts impossible. From personal examination, and from the best information we could obtain, we feel justified in stating that we fully believe that Munger, Wheeler & Co.'s books are correct, and that the firm have the grain on hand to protect the holders of the outstanding receipts.

Your Committee would further report that Messrs. Armour, Dale & Co. had commenced weighing over the grain in their elevators before this Committee was appointed. They completed the weighing of the wheat, and were invited by them to examine the books of different kinds of grain on hand, and their books in regard to the amount of grain in store, and of receipts outstanding for the same. We as well as the outstanding receipts. We did so, and will say that they were found by us to be very satisfactory, and the exactness of the result shows that the elevators have been very carefully and accurately managed. According to their books, and business-like manner of keeping them, they had in store in bushels, on Nov. 28, 1872, there was in store in by actual weight, Nov. 28, 1872, there was in store in Armour, Dale & Co.'s Elevators, "A" and "B":

	Bushels.	Bushels.
No. 1 spring wheat	276	
No. 2 spring wheat	23,537.20	
No. 3 spring wheat	624.20	
Rejected wheat		40,782.30
No. 1 corn	4,122.30	
No. 2 corn	147,568.36	
Rejected corn	19,286.34	
		170,997.34
No. 2 oats	108,967.16	
Rejected oats	10,585.30	
		119,553.16
No. 2 barley	5,496.02	
No. 3 barley	10,500.20	
Rejected barley	861.02	
		17,857.24
No. 2 rye	36,972.96	
Rejected rye	3,238.33	
		40,226.29
Total bushels grain		389,411

There were outstanding receipts for same at that date:

	Bu.	Bu.
No. 1 spring wheat	276	
No. 2 spring wheat	24,962.48	
No. 3 spring wheat	1,313	
Rejected spring wheat	1,746.10	
		41,301.50
No. 1 corn	4,143.02	
No. 2 corn	145,093.42	
Rejected corn	17,001.14	
		166,243.92
No. 2 oats	119,712.28	
Rejected oats	1,919.34	
		121,632.20
No. 2 barley	5,591.22	
No. 3 barley	10,577.20	
Rejected barley	1,745.20	
		17,914.22
No. 2 rye	37,635.18	
Rejected rye	2,058.02	
		39,693.20
Total receipts		386,793

Respectfully submitted,

J. STILES,
W. K. BRAINARD,
J. R. BRADLEY,
Committee.

The leading produce markets were rather slow to-day, with no material changes in quotations, except in wheat. There was not animation in many of the markets to give variation in price, but offerings were not large, hence steadiness. Our receipts of the leading cereals were larger than had been generally expected, but the shipments of wheat and oats were also larger than the average, corn only showing a small shipping movement. The grocery market exhibited slightly increased activity, and a firmer tone. Orders from local retailers as well as from interior dealers were more liberal, and the aggregate of sales was probably larger than on any of the half dozen preceding days of the week. Changes in prices were confined to an ⅛c advance in rio coffees, and an ⅛c in patent cut and crushed and powdered sugars, and 5c in diamond drip syrups. Rice, soaps, and spices rule steady. Teas were quiet, with prices generally rule, the exceptions being choice greens and blacks. The dry goods market continues reasonably active, and firmness still prevails in all departments. No change was reported in the butter market, a good local and outside demand existing at full former rates. Cheese continues dull and weak. There was a good demand for eggs, and the market was again strong at 21@22c for Lackawanna; $10.50@11.00 for Erie, and at $7.00 for Wilmington. Prices of dried fruits were without quotable change, though some descriptions were a trifle firmer. The fish trade was quiet, and aside from an advance of 25c in whitefish and trout, values were held without change. No new features were noted in the hides, leather, and oil markets. The usual demand for lumber prevailed to-day, previous prices being sustained. Brick, cement, lime, &c., continue quiet and steady. The demand for cooperage was fair, prices being about the same as for the past few days. Iron, tin, copper, nails, &c., were in moderate demand at present quotations. The wool market was quiet and unsettled. Prices are without quotable change, but gradually working easier. Hops are fairly active and firm. Broom corn continues quiet, the demand being restricted to small lots to supply deficiencies in stocks. Seeds were in moderate inquiry, prices ruling about the same as yesterday's. Potatoes were in demand and firm at 70@75c on track, with few car lots offering. Poultry was rather quiet; the market was very well supplied, but there was little demand except for choice offerings. Prairie chickens and quail were in excellent demand; shippers were buying extensively for the holiday trade; prairie chickens sold readily at $4.50@5.00, and quail at $1.50. Other game was in abundant supply and tolerably fair demand. Apples were in moderate request from the local trade for choice varieties, bringing from $3.50@4.00 per brl. Other fruit was quiet and unchanged.

Highwines were quiet and firm at yesterday's advance, being quoted scarce. The offerings were decidedly light, and New York buyers were here to operate. Sales were reported of 150 brls at 90c.

Dressed hogs were dull and easier. The receipts were small, only 247 head, but even these could not be sold except at a decline, as shippers were not in the market to any extent. Sales were reported of 168 head at $4.25, and the market closed with buyers at that figure for good lots.

Provisions were moderately active, but irregular. New pork was again easier, in sympathy with a further decline in live hogs, being also quoted easier in New York till near the close, when our market was dull in spite of Eastern influence. Lard was in good demand, and firm at yesterday's quotations, being reported firmer in New York, where, as here, the low price seems to have called out a first-class demand. Meats were steady and rather quiet at full previous prices, but little being offered, while there seemed to be only a few orders on the market, except for green hams, which have sold at a rate for two or three weeks past that may suggest the possibility of putting half a dozen hams from one hog. The market closed at the following range of prices: Mess pork—Old, $11.75@12.00; new pork, cash or seller the month, at $11.30@11.37½; do seller January, $11.45@11.50; do seller February, $11.75; do seller March, $11.87½@12.00; do seller April, $12.00@12.15; prime mess, $10.75@11.00. Lard, cash, $7.10 for new; seller December, $7.25@7.30; do seller January, $7.25@7.30; do seller February, $7.25@7.30; do seller March, $7.40@7.60. Sweet pickled hams, cash, green hams at 7¾@7¾c for 15-lb 7¾@8c, and green hams at 7¾@7¾c for 16-lb averages. Green shoulders, 8¾@8¾c; do rough sides, 4½@4¾c; do short ribs, 5¾c; do short clear, 5¾@5¾c; meats, 15 to 20 days in salt, quotable at 3¾c for shoulders; 5¾c for short ribs, and 6c for short clear. Boxed shoulders, seller December, quoted at 4c. English meats, for delivery in December at 4c. English meats, for Cumberlands; 6c for and January, 5¾@5¾c for Cumberlands; 6c for short ribs, or long clear; 6¼@6¾c for short clear; 8¼@8½c for long cut hams. $9.00@10.00; beef hams, $29.50@30.00. City tallow, 7¾@8c; grease quotable at 5¾@6¼c. Sales were reported of 200 brls mess pork (choice) at $11.50; 100 brls do at 11.37½; 700 brls do at $11.30; 100 brls do (country) at $11.25; 500 brls do seller January at $11.40; 1,350 lbs lard at $7.10; 500 lbs do (last evening) at $7.06¾; 2,000 lbs do at $7.05; 250 lbs do seller January at $7.15; 250 lbs do seller March at 7.40c; 100 lbs do at $7.50; 25 boxes shoulders at 4c; 20,000 lbs light rough sides at 5¼c; 20,000 lbs green short ribs (light) at 5½c; 200 boxes do at 5¾c; 600 boxes equal quantities of long and short clear boxed meats at 6¼c; 1,000 lbs bellies at 6¾c; at 6,000 lbs green do at 6c; 1,000 pcs green hams (13 lbs) at 8c; 1,000 pcs do (14 lbs) at 7¾c; 50,000 lbs do (15 lbs) at 7¾c; 180,000 lbs do at 7¾c; 20,000 lbs do (16 lbs) at 7¾c; 20,000 lbs do at 7¾

THE LOUISVILLE LOTTERY.

How the Three Hundred and Seventy-five Thousand Dollars were Drawn.

Louisville, Ky. (Dec. 9), Correspondence of the Cincinnati Gazette.

The drawing, said to be for the Public Library of this city, is over; and, now that I have been able to think better of everything connected with it (since the first shock of astonishment at such an outsider (I mean a representative of the press) could see, I will give you, in my own manner as possible, an account of the proceedings, as well as the impressions made upon myself and one or two other disinterested spectators, from what we witnessed.

At 6 o'clock in the morning I presented myself at the front door of the Public Library, but found that it was not yet opened. At half-past 6 the doors were opened and about twenty men, ladies and gentlemen, took their seats in the orchestra chairs. Shortly after half-past 6 a few policemen came in, and at the same time one of the managers, who passed me on to the stage.

The first thing I noticed on the stage was the two wheels. It is, however, of no consequence to describe them. I was furnished a seat near a table, on which there were three on the stage, two for the reporters of newspapers. One of these I have never attended a lottery drawing before, and I was under the impression that the reason why it commenced so early in the morning was on account of the large number, 75,000 in number, having to be present in the presence of an impartial committee in the audience, or any persons that could vouch for their being correct; but here I was informed, and shown how innocent I was in this matter, for at 7 o'clock, when there were not yet more than a dozen persons on the floor, and not more than thirty or forty in the hall, which was the hall of music before referred to, and while the gas lights were yet required to show light in the building, there entered on to the stage by the side door, three rough-looking men, each bearing a trunk of the commonest description on the shoulder, and, after laying down their loads on the stage near to the foot-lights, turned back. Shortly after two men came and carried these trunks, and one of the officials informed me that they were the Committee who would draw the prizes. The door in the side of the front of the two wheels was now opened, and a small basket of thin hard leather, and also a smaller than the brass tags usually use checks for baggage, were taken off of two of the wheels. Some of the wires, it was said, contained a thousand tags, and others contained one hundred; some from fifty to a thousand. Each wheel, however, was emptied of its tags, and it was remarked that there were 75,000 tags then in the three trunks. These were empty, some one remarked that there were 75,000 tags then in the three trunks. These were empty, some one remarked that there were 75,000 tags then in the three trunks. These were empty, some one

WASHINGTON.

(Continued from the First Page.)

ganization, run in the interest of politicians and railroad corporations.

Mr. TOWNSEND replied it was a semi-political organization, because composed of the men who were soldiers. The soldiers of the war were Republicans, while those of the Rebellion were Democrats.

Excitement on the Democratic side, Mr. RANDALL saying, "That's not so."

Mr. SPEER denounced Mr. Townsend's statement as false in fact, and disgraceful to a Representative from Pennsylvania.

Mr. TOWNSEND, in conclusion, asserted the Rebellion was gotten up by the Democratic party of the South, assisted by the moral influence of their coadjutors, the Democratic party of the North, and that nine-tenths of the soldiers of the war were Republicans.

After some further debate of a conversational nature, the bill went over, at the expiration of the morning hour, until to-morrow.

THE FRENCH SPOLIATION

bill was postponed, and the House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. DAWES presiding, on the

INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

The usual annual debate on the Indian policy of the Government, the absurdity of making and continuing treaties with the Indians, and the possibility of civilizing the Indians, took place, and was participated in by Messrs. SARGENT, GARFIELD, BECK, NIBLACK, CONNER, and SHANKS.

The Committee rose and reported the bill to the House, when it passed—yeas, 111; nays, 43.

SANDY HOOK.

The House non-concurred in the Senate amendment to the House bill for the removal of the sunken wreck off Sandy Hook, and ordered a Conference Committe.

Adjourned.

MADISON.

Proceedings of the Legislative Visiting Committee Yesterday.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 11.—The Legislative Visiting Committee, consisting of Senators J. E. Irish, of St. Croix, and J. L. Mitchell, of Milwaukee; Assemblymen C. S. Kelsey, of Marquette; D. G. Chesver, of Rock; and J. S. Rankin, of Manitowoc,—three Republicans and two Democrats,—having organized by choosing Mr. Irish Chairman and Mr. Kelsey Secretary, proceeded with Governor Washburn to visit the Soldiers' Orphans' Home. There they found two hundred and eleven children, all but two or three in good health, and all appearing happy and in good order. The sleeping, dining, school, and other rooms were thoroughly inspected. Recitations in different studies were listened to, and the scholars practiced in various bodily exercises to the sound of music. Brief speeches were made to the children by Governor Washburn, Messrs. Irish and Chesver, the drift of which was to encourage them in well-doing, and remind them that the time was soon coming when they would be deprived of the fostering care of the State, and have to take their places as men and women in the world; also expressing a lively interest in their welfare. Much satisfaction is expressed by the committee with the management of Superintendent Barton, and the work of the teachers during the year. Special attention has been given to the cultivation of habits of industry, many of the boys being taught shoemaking and telegraphing. Nine acres of land were cultivated, and considerable garden stuff and root crops was raised, and other work done by the boys, while the girls are employed in housework as far as possible. The expenses of the year have been kept considerably within the appropriation of $30,000, and only $20,000 is asked for next year. Leaving two Democratic members to finish the work of examining the accounts, the rest of the Committee took the cars to the Hospital for the Insane, seven miles from this city, where they spent the evening examining the accounts, and to-morrow the whole Committee will go through that institution, spending the day here, and Friday they will devote to the Industrial School for boys at Waukesha. At the Hospital for the Insane, there are now 334 patients, the whole number during last year having been 512, of whom 60 were discharged recovered; 98 improved; 87 unimproved, mostly old chronic cases, and 18 died. The expenditures for the year were $105,976, and for the next year $129,500 will be needed, including $24,000 for rebuilding the laundry and boiler rooms, burned last August, to meet which $33,053 are expected from the counties and friends, leaving $96,447 to be paid from the State Treasury. The administration of Superintendent McBill has been most satisfactory in all respects.

INDIANA.

Yesterday's Proceedings in the State Legislature.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SENATE.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 11.—The bill to regulate the freight and passenger tariff on railroads was passed—37 yeas to 6 nays. It provides that charges on freight carried a distance of not over twenty miles shall not be more than 100 per cent per mile more than through rates; more than twenty and less than forty miles, not more than 75 per cent advance; more than fifty miles, not more than 50 per cent advance, provided that in no case shall the entire charge exceed the charge for through freight. The rate for passengers is fixed at three cents per mile.

The House bill to enable border counties to extend aid to foreign railways, in certain cases, was passed. Also the bill to provide for the distribution of stock issued to counties for subscription in aid of railroads among the taxpayers, in proportion to the amount of taxes paid, and the bill to create the Twenty-sixth Common Pleas District of the Counties of Morgan, Monroe, and Lawrence. The bill fixing the salaries of Judges was made the special order for to-morrow. The majority of the Committee report the following salaries: Supreme Court, $5,000; Superior Court, $3,500; Common Pleas Court, $3,000, and Criminal Court, $2,500.

The discussion on the Railroad bill occupied nearly the entire session of to-day.

HOUSE.

The bill to provide for the uniform assessment of taxes was recommitted and made the special order for to-morrow.

The bill to abolish the office of State Agent and transfer the duties to the Secretary of State was passed—yeas, 87; nays, 0.

The following bills were also passed: To repeal the act regulating the sale of patent rights, and empowering Town Trustees to compel owners of lots to plant, maintain, and protect shade trees.

The Per Diem bill, increasing the pay of members from $5 to $8 per day, was taken up and passed—yeas, 51; nays, 42.

At the afternoon session the following bills were passed: To amend the act to declare abandoned certain unfinished railroads; repealing the Kankakee Drainage law; to provide a fifth Judge for the Supreme Court, and to divide the State into five Supreme Court Districts.

A petition was received from the Prosecuting Attorney of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, in regard to the facts involved in the statement of the Indianapolis & Terre Haute Railroad, in regard to the earnings of the road, together with a resolution directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the facts involved in the suit against the road in the Putnam Circuit Court.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on public printing to report back without delay, the bill to abolish the office of State Printer.

War Department Weather Prognostications.

WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, DIVISION OF TELEGRAMS AND REPORTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF COMMERCE, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 11.—Probabilities—Northwest and thence over the upper lakes, southerly winds, cloudy weather, high but diminishing pressures, and slowly decreasing temperatures extending to the Ohio Valley. In the Ohio Valley and thence to the Gulf, northerly to westerly winds, clearing and clear weather with low temperature and high barometer. In the South Atlantic States northwesterly winds and cloudy weather, with light rain. On the lower lake region and in the St. Lawrence Valley northerly winds, cold and generally clear weather. In the middle and Eastern States northerly and northeasterly winds, low temperatures. High barometers and occasional snow on the seaboard.

Ocean Steamship News.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—The steamships Holland, Malta, and Batavia have arrived.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 11.—The steamships Egypt, Austrian, and Moravian have arrived.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—Arrived, steamship Calabria, from Liverpool.

POLITICAL.

Further Advices from the Political Situation in Louisiana.

Both Legislatures in Session---Governor Warmoth's Proclamation.

The Alabama Troubles---The Governor Wants Possession of the State House.

Political Matters Elsewhere.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 11.—The Fusion Legislature is in session, with a quorum in both Houses. General Hugh Campbell is President of the Senate, and J. C. Monette was elected Speaker of the House.

The Lynch-Hawkins Returning Board make a material change in the result of the city and parish election. They return Judges for the District Courts which were classed and not determined by the Governor's Board. E. M. Ennier, in the Third, and B. L. Lynch, in the Fourth, both Republican candidates for Congress, are returned.

The Kellogg Legislature has passed a bill abolishing the Seventeenth and Eighteenth District Courts and creating a Superior Court with exclusive jurisdiction in issuing injunctions and mandamus, and in all cases in which the State, city, and metropolitan board shall be party.

A resolution passed arraigning W. A. Elmore, Judge of the Eighth District Court, before the bar of the House for contempt in issuing an injunction yesterday against Pinchback.

By order of Acting Governor Pinchback, Major General Hugh J. Campbell has been relieved from active duty, and Major General James Longstreet, of the Louisiana Militia, has been assigned Commandant of the Division. This movement doubtless is made with a view of relieving the United States troops on duty at the Mechanics' Institute.

In the Fusion Legislature, a Joint Committee was appointed to notify the Governor, who, soon thereafter, sent to the joint session of the Senate and House his message, after the reading of which both Houses adjourned until noon to-morrow.

Governor Warmoth, to-day, issued the following proclamation:

STATE OF LOUISIANA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 11, 1872.

WHEREAS, A revolutionary assemblage pretending to be the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, composed mainly of candidates defeated at the election, but who have been proclaimed elected by persons wholly unauthorized to act, which person have deliberately and wickedly falsified the facts of the election, and have pretended to return the void and defeated candidates without having possession of any legal returns or other documentary evidence, thereby usurping and defiance the will of the majority of the people; and,

WHEREAS, The said fraudulent and pretended General Assembly has attempted to impose upon the public by passing pretended resolutions of impeachment, in pursuance of, which the person falsely assuming to be Lieutenant Governor by virtue of a term of office as Senator, which has expired, has under pretense of certain informal papers, broken into the Executive Office, and declared himself Acting Governor of the State, and persists in such claim in spite of an injunction issued by a competent Court, and,

WHEREAS, The said revolutionary and fraudulent organization has proceeded to declare the results of the late election by proclaiming the election of candidates for Governor and all other offices, who were really defeated by many thousand votes, and,

WHEREAS, The truly-elected members of the General Assembly being excluded from the Capitol by an armed force placed at the disposal of the conspirators against the peace and dignity of the State, have met and organized at the City Hall of the City of New Orleans, and are now prepared to enter upon the discharge of their Legislative duties, now,

Therefore, I, Henry Clay Warmoth, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do issue this my proclamation, warning and cautioning all good citizens against in any manner recognizing said revolutionary and fraudulent assemblage, pretending to be the General Assembly of the State, and now in session at the building known as the Mechanics' Institute, recently used as a State House, or the person who claims to act as Governor, by virtue of the fraudulent resolutions of impeachment adopted by the said revolutionary assemblage, and I hereby command all State officers, Collectors, Sheriffs, Justices, and others to disregard the pretended official acts of the said revolutionary assemblage and of the person who falsely and fraudulently claims to act as Governor of the State; to refuse to them all countenance of recognition, but to respectfully and duly with the legal officers now in authority, until such time as their successors shall be regularly installed in accordance with the law, and agreeably to the legal returns of the recent election; and I do hereby declare that such officers will be protected in the discharge of their duties by all the authority of which the State Government is possessed, and that all the force of the State will be used for the purpose of defeating the machinations of the conspirators who have temporarily occupied the State Capital; of enforcing the laws of the State; of enforcing the writs of the Courts of Judiciary, and of maintaining the peace and dignity of the State.

Given under my hand and seal of State this 11th day of December, A. D. 1872, and of Independence of the United States the ninety-seventh.

H. C. WARMOTH,
Governor of Louisiana.

By the Governor,
Y. A. WOODWARD, Acting Secretary of State.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 11—Evening.—The militia officers, having been ordered by Acting Governor Pinchback, through Adjutant General Street, to report to General Longstreet, express a determination to obey no orders, but those emanating from Governor Warmoth, whom they still regard as Commander-in-Chief. The militia are on guard at their armory to-night.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Attorney General Williams has sent the following telegram to the Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana, pending the impeachment trial of Governor Warmoth:

Acting Governor Pinchback, Louisiana:

The requisition of the Legislature, transmitted by you, is received. Whenever it becomes necessary, in the judgment of the President, the State will be protected from domestic violence.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The United States Supreme Court will hear arguments to-morrow morning on the application for a writ of prohibition from Louisiana. The precedents heretofore in that count are to the effect that a writ of prohibition only applies to cases in admiralty. If these precedents be adhered to, as it is generally conceded they will, this case will be dismissed on the ground of want of jurisdiction.

ALABAMA TROUBLES.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 11.—About 1 o'clock to-day, while the Capitol Legislature was in session, Sheriff Strobach appeared in the Senate and said he had a warrant from Governor Lewis to take possession of the Capitol, whereupon the Senate ordered the Sergeant-at-Arms to arrest the Sheriff for contempt, and hold him in custody for forty-eight hours, dating from noon.

The Sheriff did not resist the arrest, but explained he was merely acting under orders, and on apologizing to the Senate, was released. For a few minutes the excitement was intense, and the Federal troops stationed near the Capitol got under arms, but no necessity for action appearing, they dispersed to their quarters. The Senate authorized the Sergeant-at-Arms to summon a posse of military to guard the Capitol against all Federal forces, and adjourned.

The Sheriff appeared before the door of the House, but the Sergeant-at-Arms refused admittance except to the Federal forces, and the Sheriff withdrew.

The Legislature in the Court room admitted to a seat another person who had, according to official returns, been defeated by a large majority.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

BOSTON, Dec. 11.—In the Massachusetts House, to-day, Mr. Hoyt, of Athol, offered the following preamble and resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Federal Relations:

WHEREAS, Charles Sumner, Senator from Massachusetts, has proposed, on the floor of the United States Senate, to erase from the flags of the Republic and from the Register of the Army all inscriptions, mementoes, and tokens of battles and victories of the Union arms in the late war of the Rebellion,

Resolved, That this attempt to degrade the loyal soldiery of the nation and their grand achievements meets with our unqualified condemnation, and merits the disapproval of the people of this Commonwealth thus misrepresented.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATOR IN TROUBLE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—A Columbia, S. C., despatch states that Senator-elect Patterson's arrest is based on the affidavits of 11 members of the Legislature. He was taken before a Justice, but a crowd of his friends created a disturbance, and Patterson escaped. He was again arrested and committed to jail for 12 hours for contempt, but was immediately released on a writ of habeas corpus.

ARKANSAS RETURNS.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 11.—The Secretary of State has made his abstract of the recent election in this State. According to the returns on file in his office, with the exception of Congressman-at-Large, the entire Republican ticket is elected by a majority ranging from 300 to over 3,000. There are no returns from four counties,—Johnson, Green, Scott, and Poinsett, all of which gave majorities for the Reform ticket.

NEW YORK CITY POLITICS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—Several disturbances occurred at the Republican primary meetings last night.

OGDENSBURGH CITY ELECTIONS.

OGDENSBURGH, N. Y., Dec. 11.—At the charter election, yesterday, the whole Republican ticket was elected.

NEW YORK.

Losses by the Antwerp Failure—Bank Run Subsided—Tweed's Case—An Uncle Shoots His Niece in a House of Prostitution—Swindled Italians—Another Defalcation—Specie Exports—The Brooklyn Poisoning Case—Miscellaneous Local Items.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The mysterious middle-aged man, who walked into a fashionable bagnio on Neilson place, yesterday, and shot dead a young courtezan in her chamber, and then coolly walked off, saying to the woman keeping the place that he had murdered his niece, and intended to surrender himself, was found in a station-house this morning. He had kept his word, but did not confess his real crime until to-day. His victim was Mary Smith, an Irish girl, of slight build and stature, with regular and rather pretty features, and long chestnut hair. She was a child of a hair-dresser in Cork, Ireland. Her mother destroyed herself two months ago by cutting the main artery of her right arm. Her murderer fired four shots, two of which took effect, one penetrating the lungs, causing instant death. Her slayer gives his name as Robert F. Bleakly. He is a short, thin man, aged about 45, and by trade a ship carpenter. The deceased was a daughter of his sister. Bleakly paid the passage of the two across to America. After working as a domestic for a time the deceased entered a life of shame. Bleakly says he visited the girl, yesterday, to entreat her to reform, but she defied and abused him, and to avenge what he considered a family disgrace, he killed her. Another reason assigned by him is that her conduct drove her mother to suicide.

The trial of Dr. Lucius B. Irish, of Brooklyn, for poisoning Internal Revenue Assessor E. O. Anderson, with arsenic, is progressing rapidly, and exciting great interest. Mr. Anderson was a large, athletic, stout, jovial fellow about 30 years of age, in the vigor of youth. Until 1869, he and his wife lived happily together. In that year, Dr. Irish made the acquaintance of Mrs. Anderson. It is claimed by the prosecution, that at once Dr. Irish commenced to undermine her virtue, and there was criminal intimacy between them. This intimacy continued until the death of the deceased. A short time before Mr. Anderson's death, he visited his father's house, and there was taken sick with a burning pain in his stomach, accompanied by retching. He went to Dr. Irish's store in the afternoon, and from there to his deathbed. Dr. Irish and Mrs. Anderson attended him during his last days. Dr. Doremus, who analyzed the contents of the stomach, testified to-day that he found therein arsenic enough to kill two men. Dr. Irish is a showy individual, with great self-possession. His wife is his constant companion in Court.

[By the Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—It is now thought that American creditors will not lose seriously by the failure of Jacobs Brothers, of Antwerp.

The run on the Mutual Bank has wholly subsided.

The motion to quash the indictments against Tweed, to-day, was denied by Judge Ingraham.

Robert P. Bleakley, the man who shot the girl, Maude Miller, in a house of prostitution, last night, has surrendered himself to the authorities. He states that he is an uncle of the deceased, and that he went to see his niece to urge her to leave a life of shame. Understanding from her sister that she was armed with a pistol to shoot him, he was prepared. She met him defiantly, and refused to listen to his entreaties to reform. She made a movement toward her pocket, and, supposing she intended to draw a pistol, he, in the height of frenzy, shot her.

The swindled Italian immigrants at Castle Garden are starving, and wholly destitute people of the lower class. It appears that printed hand-bills have been circulated by emigration agents all over Italy describing America as a country of fabulous wealth. Many of them do not know whether they are in New York or Buenos Ayres. Acting on the report of the Italian officials at Castle Garden, the Commissioners of Charities have communicated with the Secretary of State, requesting his immediate official action.

Henry J. Foster, Cashier of the National City Bank of Brooklyn, is reported a defaulter for $10,000.

The steamship JAVA to-day took out $130,000 in specie.

HORTICULTURAL.

The Illinois and Kansas Horticultural Societies—Second Day's Proceedings.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

CENTRALIA, Ill., Dec. 11.—The Standing Committee on Meteorology failed in making a report, and the subject of grapes was resumed. The President took the ground that the better the preparation of the soil, the better the result. To this Mr. Weir took decided exceptions. He held that the soil for the grape should be only moderately rich, simply such land as would produce a fair crop of corn.

Mr. Galusha would sustain the President. He would regret to have such unorthodox views as held by Mr. Weir go to the public uncontradicted.

Dr. Hootel regarded good preparation and good culture too essential to be set aside.

In reply, Mr. Weir stated that in grape culture we need too much manure, but we did need good clean culture and simply thorough drainage.

Several members who took part in the discussion showed how little they know of the plant's growth. At least the whole grape subject was badly muddled and left pretty much as found. The facts appeared that the various soils required different treatment to produce the best results in grape culture.

Dr. Humphrey, of Galesburg, stated that the Wilson and Green profile were the only varieties of strawberry that would pay for culture; the latter under good treatment being the most productive. Leaves are the best for winter mulching the plants. In the spring he gives a clean, thorough culture.

Dr. Hooton, of Centralia, would only plant the Wilson for market. He plants in hills, and keeps down all weeds. His crop was 3,500 quarts to the acre. He crops for five years, and then turns the plants under. He mulches with straw, and in spring opens the mulch along the rows of the plants. An application of phosphate gives the largest yield; plaster and ashes, the least.

Mr. Daggy, from the Fourth District, read his annual report. The apple produced an enormous crop, much in excess of the preparations for its care, and too much to be fully utilized.

Mr. Francis had found the apple-bin the best moth trap. He had failed with the wire trap, and most of his correspondents had failed. With the plums, peach, and pear, he had a fair crop, but the fruit was not as fair as usual. Osage orange and ashes were commended as valuable for timber planting. The small fruits were injured by the winter, and the crop small.

On the nursery culture of apple, Mr. Daggy said that people in selecting apple trees are too much disposed to select fine, showy trees, instead of selecting the variety for its worth.

Dr. Humphrey would recommend trees of two or three years old.

Mr. Vickroy had tested the first cut of the root, and the second cut or lower part of the root, and the terminal, and had found that the first cut of the root had produced the best average growth. The variety was the Ben. Davis. He had found that a six-inch root made a better growth than short pieces, that is, for the first year. In conclusion, he would take a three-inch root of as large size as practicable.

Mr. Phoenix would suggest that the rooting had much to do with producing a favorable result.

Mr. Weir said much depended on packing the soil when planting.

Mr. Nelson would not wax the graft, as it excluded the air from the graft at the point of junction. He would simply tie or wind the joint in order to give strength.

Mr. Baldwin said that wax filled the pores of the bark, and the injurious, and that the joints should be wound with thread in order to hold the parts together.

Mr. Douglas agreed with Mr. Baldwin, and thought the plan pursued by Mr. Vickroy at the Industrial University was not a good one.

Mr. Miller, of Iowa, would like the views of grafters in regard to the length of root for root-grafting.

Mr. Phoenix said cuttings of roots two and one-half inches long.

Mr. Nelson used roots the same length, but never used more than two of the cuttings from one root.

Mr. Baldwin said that in regard to orchard culture he would plant the trees with low heads and plant twenty feet in two rows; he would cultivate, and, under no circumstances, would he seed down with blue grass; he would not prune until coming into bearing. Seeding with clover and pasturage with hogs would be advisable for periods of two or three years, and then cultivate.

Dr. Humphrey would ridge up the earth along the orchard rows in order to insure drainage. This is done by repeated plowings. He favored close planting.

Mr. Nelson presented a sweet apple, a seedling produced in Will County; keeps a year, and is a desirable and sweet apple for pies and baking.

The Committee on Ornamental and Timber Trees reported through Mr. Lagg. The tulips are of great value, and should be largely grown. The poplar is one of great value.

Mr. Flagg took the ground that the prairie is not natural to the growth of timber, as shown in the timbered tracts of the south part of the State. The argument was that the soil was not acclimated, as it might be said, and required first planting with cottonwood and other similar trees. This position was opposed by Messrs. Schofield, Douglass, Humphrey, Baldwin, Edwards, and Dunlap, who held that there was nothing in the condition of the soil injurious to timber-growing for shelter belts and timber planting. The Osage orange was highly recommended. It must in time take the place of oak for farm wagons, as one of its virtues is, that it experiences no change on account of exposure, and no shrinkage in drying.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

TOPEKA, KAN., Dec. 11.—The Kansas Horticultural Society met this morning. The session was opened by prayer by the Rev. Gale, of the Kansas Agricultural College at Manhattan, after which the Society listened to an interesting essay upon the grape, by Dr. J. Stayman, of Leavenworth. The conclusions arrived by the Docter were these: That Kansas soil and Kansas climate, heat, and rainfall were favorable to the growth of the grape, because all the wild varieties, such as the fox, summer, and frost grapes succeeded well, although we had grown many varieties of all the celebrated grapes known and in general cultivation in the United States. He concluded by recommending only the Concord and the Ives for general planting.

Quite a lively discussion followed, participated in by quite a number of the members.

Next followed a most interesting report from the Committee that visited the East, with an exhibition of fruits, made by the Chairman, Dr. Wm. M. Howsley. In this mention is made of the "War of Fruits" between Kansas and Missouri. The cost of making the exhibition was, for Topeka, $271.40; for New York, $511.85; for correspondence, freights, etc., $76.95, leaving a balance in bank amounting to $124.75.

At the afternoon session the new officers were elected: President, Dr. William M. Houseley; Vice President, Wellcome Wells, of Riley County; Secretary, J. C. Brackett, of Lawrence; Executive Committee, Judge Wellhouse, Professor Gale, and B. L. Kingsbury, of Burlington.

"Western Enterprise." The *Commonwealth* of to-day contains the following, taking the programme from yesterday, and drawing upon its imagination for the balance. It says of yesterday's proceedings:

The afternoon session was devoted to essays and miscellaneous business. Mr. J. W. Bryan, of Jefferson County, read a very interesting paper on Kansas as a fruit-growing State, and the Hon. Jas. Harvey, of Franklin County, expounded upon the history of Kansas horticulture. In the evening, after the opening exercises, the Hon. C. B. Lines, of Waubaunsee County, read an essay on the profitableness of fruit-growing, which was followed by a short but interesting discussion, participated in by several members.

All this is fiction. The facts are, that no papers were read or presented in the afternoon of yesterday, and Professor John H. Rice delivered a very learned essay on Meteorology in the evening, for which he received the unanimous thanks of the Society. No Kansas paper has, on this occasion, shown the enterprise to have a reporter present, not even the Kansas *Farmer*.

THE FAR WEST.

Troops for Oregon—Assistance for a Steamer—Reprieve for a Murderer—Joaquin Miller's Wife—The Modoc Indian Troubles.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—Troops commanded by Colonel Stone, numbering seventy-five, have left Jacksonville, Oregon, to hunt the Modoc Indians, and bring the friendly Indians to their reservation.

William Donovan, sentenced to be hanged next Friday, has been granted a reprieve for two weeks.

Minnie Myrtle Miller, wife of Joaquim Miller, has gone East to fill lecture engagements in the principal cities.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—The steamer Fidelter has assisted the old ship Sacramento, with extra boats, cables, anchors, and wrecking apparatus, Captain Cox commanding. She will probably reach the wreck on Thursday.

The Modoc Indians have retreated to Wright's Cave, southwest side of Tule Lake, Oregon, with their children and squaws, and laid in a good supply of provisions. The cave is situated on a high table-land that covers about three acres. The underground entrance is narrow and easily guarded. It is calculated that fifty Modoc warriors, and a number of Pitt River and Pi-Utes with them, are fortified there. Fourteen settlers have been killed in the war so far. Henry Miller was tortured to death. About thirty Modocs were killed. Four hundred troops are in the field at the present time besides volunteers. A party of scouts left Camp Fairchild on Sunday, and have not been heard from since. There are fears that they have been killed or captured by the savages.

A decisive battle is expected at Wright's Cave, provided the Indians hold the position long enough.

FIRES.

Destruction of Property Yesterday.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 11.—About 11 o'clock, this evening, a fire broke out in the rear of Kane's Block, on West Water street, near Spring. The fire department were on hand promptly, and the fire quickly extinguished, without having occasioned serious damage. The driver of the supply hose-cart, named John Carrigan, on turning the corner of Wells and West Water streets ran into a lamp-post and was thrown off. The cart passed over him, and he is supposed to be fatally injured.

ALBANY, Dec. 11.—Dater & Nash's sash and blind factory, Troy, N. Y., was burned Sunday morning. Loss, $20,000; insured, $12,000. It was the work of an incendiary. Fifty employes lose situations and their tools.

Another incendiary fire, discovered early Monday morning, caused damage to the extent of $800.

The brush factory of the Lansingburg Manufacturing Company, with all its contents, was destroyed by an incendiary fire Sunday morning. About 200 men, women, and children are thrown out of employment, and the loss is variously estimated at $20,000 to $35,000.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Dec. 11.—The Erie Railway freight and passenger depot at Union, a mile from this place, was burned last night.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

DES MOINES, Dec. 11.—A disastrous fire occured at Stuart, Guthrie County, this morning, by which seven of the principal business houses of the place were destroyed, with most of their contents. Loss, $20,000; insurance, less than $2,000. The fire is supposed to have been the work of incendiaries. The principal losers were William R. Hussey, John Leonard, Trout & Viele, D. Belgar, Hubbard's Savings Bank, Z. J. Montgomery, and P. H. Lennon, insured in the Hartford and Germania.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—This evening, the stock of Haymann & Colnfield, dealers in ostrich feathers, No. 8 Greene street, was damaged by fire $35,000, and the building $1,500.

A Lottery Law Suit.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 11.—The case of Ben. Wood, of New York, against Murray, Miller & Co., managers of the Missouri State Lottery, for thirty-nine and a half shares in the lottery, which has been before the Courts here for ten years past, came up again to-day before Judge Lindly, of the Circuit Court, and, on agreement of all parties, was referred to Judge Napton for final decision. Judge Napton will sit at the Southern Hotel and hear the testimony, which will be continued several days.

The Horse Disease.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 11.—The horse disease is still spreading here and has suddenly assumed a more malignant form. Some sixty deaths occurred to-day, and much alarm prevails among horse owners. Large numbers of oxen are arriving in the city, and being put to work moving various kinds of property.

YANKTON, D. T., Dec. 11.—The epizootic is here in full force, and three-fourths of the horses affected. The railway is completed to within twenty miles of here, but we have to rely on stages yet, and the Stage Company have had to substitute oxen for horses. With these, it will run daily stages east to connect with the railroad, and on the route above here to Fort Randall, but one ox-stage will be run weekly until the epizootic is over.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Dec. 11.—Petitions for a dissolution of the National Assembly are greatly increasing. Prefects of the several departments where the movement is formidable have been summoned to Versailles. Members of the moderate Left favor a dissolution.

The Duke de Broglie, a Monarchist, has been elected a member of the Committee of Thirty, in place of Fourtou, appointed Minister of the Public Works.

This city was visited by a terrible gale yesterday, and several buildings were demolished and others damaged.

PARIS, Dec. 11.—*L'Egalite*, a newspaper at Marseilles, has been suppressed for violating the press law.

A manifesto signed by Gambetta, Cremieux, Louis Blanc, Quinet, and eighty-six members of the extreme and moderate Left, is published to-day. It demands the pacific and legal dissolution of the National Assembly as the only means of averting fresh dangers to the country, as the division in the Assembly render the Government powerless. The address expresses a strong disapproval of the pressure now being exerted to bring about disorder, which has been hitherto proved can only result in advantage to the enemies of France. The new elections will constitute a compact majority in the Assembly, securing majorities therein to the Administration of Thiers and for the establishment of Republican institutions. The right of petition to the Assembly is claimed to be inviolable, for an attack upon it would be an attack upon the principle of universal suffrage.

VERSAILLES, Dec. 11.—In the National Assembly, to-day, M. Gastonde expressed the hope that the Assembly would not dissolve before it had ensured the complete liberation of French territory.

The Deputies of the Right submitted a proposition assigning Saturday next for the discussion of petitions for the dissolution of the Assembly.

M. Gambetta thereupon ascended the tribune, and, speaking with great fire and decision, supported the proposal. He concluded by saying to the Right, on behalf of the Left, "Our impatience for discussion equals yours."

The Assembly adopted the motion, and fixed the debate for Saturday, amid profound agitation. Members of the Left have since expressed regret at their precipitation, as it is improbable that the Left Centre will support the movement for dissolution, which can, it is now believed, scarcely obtain two hundred and fifty votes.

GERMANY.

BERLIN, Dec. 11.—Bismarck will return to Berlin between the 15th and 20th of this month.

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—Viscountess Beaconsfield, the wife of Mr. Disraeli, is seriously ill.

ST. LOUIS.

Proceedings in the Commercial Convention Yesterday.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 11.—The Commercial Convention met at the Mercantile Library Hall, and was called to order at 12, noon, by R. M. Bishop, President. After a few remarks, in which he alluded to the objects of the convention and urged harmony and wisdom of action, he introduced Mayor Brown, who delivered a brief welcoming address. Mr. Thomas Allen then made a rather elaborate introductory address, after which the convention proceeded to the appointment of Committees on Credentials, Permanent Organization, Rules, and Order of Business. Delegates from only fifteen States were present, but telegrams were received stating that several delegations have been delayed *en route* and will be here to-morrow morning.

After the appointment of Committees on Credentials, Permanent Organization, and Order of Business, the Convention adjourned till to-morrow morning, to give the Committees time to make reports, and an opportunity for the delayed delegations to arrive. The business to-day was entirely preliminary, and of no general interest.

Mayor Brown stated to the Convention that, in consequence of the horse influenza, it would be impossible to show the members the city and surroundings as had been contemplated, but a banquet would be given them at the Southern Hotel to-morrow night, and their sojourn here be otherwise made as pleasant as circumstances would admit.

CORONER'S INQUESTS.

Coroner Stephens was busy all day yesterday holding inquests. In the case of William Burns, who fell down stairs at No. 80 Otis street, it appears the deceased was in the habit of getting up at night and smoking a pipe. On Sunday evening he arose as usual, and, in attempting to go down stairs in the dark, walked off, there being no balluster to prevent him. He struck on his head, and died on Tuesday. John O'Hara, who fell down the stairway on the outside of his dwelling, on Superior street, Monday, died of his injuries yesterday. Accidental was the verdict of the jury. Henry Moore, who was shot by Officer Smith, of Hamlin's force, died on Tuesday, as previously mentioned in THE TRIBUNE. He left a statement exonerating Smith, and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the facts. Smith was released from custody. The jury empanelled in the case of J. J. Kernan, the lad who was run over by a train on the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad, at the Lincoln street crossing, censured the Company for carelessness in not stationing a flagman at the crossing, and allowing trains to be run at a greater speed than the law permits. An inquest was held at the Morgue on the remains of Colonel Anneke, of Milwaukee, the circumstances attending whose death was detailed in Tuesday's TRIBUNE. The physician who made the post *mortem* examination testified that concussion of the brain, caused by the fall, produced death. Witnesses, who saw the deceased half an hour before the accident, swore that he was not intoxicated. The jury considered his demise accidental, but called the attention of the city authorities to the liability there is in the mishap occurring at similar unsafe places in the neighborhood, requesting that action be taken to prevent broken necks in the future.

MISCELLANEOUS LOCAL ITEMS.

The delivery wagon of Stewart & Sweutzel, stationers, No. 708 State street, was robbed of a considerable quantity of goods while on its way from the store to Polk street last evening. The driver was unaware of the loss until he went to take the packages out. This is not the first theft of this kind that has been committed in that part of the city.

Quite a sensation was created on Desplaines street, between Madison and Washington streets, shortly after 9 o'clock last evening, by a stabbing affray in the disreputable house of May Brown, near the Globe Theatre. The name of the combatants could not be ascertained, but it is said that both are men of some respectability, and that one is the proprietor of a large billiard saloon on West Madison street. This latter individual, it appears, originated the disturbance. Immediately after entering the house he discovered a man, whom he looked upon as a rival, in conversation with the proprietress. The sight roused his anger to the dangerous pitch of drawing a bowie-knife and chasing the intruder. He overtook him just as he was about making his exit through the front door, but failed to inflict a more serious wound than a slight puncture in the hand. Two police officers were called in, but the men had by that time made their escape. Several panes of glass were broken during the fracas.

A Female Billiardist.

BOSTON, Dec. 11.—At a billiard tournament this evening an exhibition game, 100 points, was played between Miss Bessinger and Mr. Tobin. The lady played with much skill, and won the game by 51 points.

A Missing Steamer.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—There is no intelligence of the missing ship Scandinavia, and it is feared that she has foundered and gone down.

Railroad News.

TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 11.—Arrangements have been completed for the organization of a Company to build the Canadian Pacific Railroad.

Parsons & Co.'s wharf, at East Gloucester, Mass., caved in on Tuesday, carrying down about 10,000 hogsheads of Cadiz salt, valued at $20,000. The wharf was damaged to the extent of from $8,000 to $10,000.

Owing to a cessation in the supply of water in Jersey City and Hoboken, on Tuesday, caused by the accumulation of ice in the pipes, the machine-shops and factories in the cities named were idle yesterday.

THE NEW PASTOR.

Installation of Rev. Dr. Swazey in the Charge of the Ashland Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Interesting and Impressive Sermon by Rev. David Swing.

Addresses by Rev. Dr. Patterson, Rev. L. H. Reed, and Others.

The installation services incident upon the formal mutual acceptance of one another between Dr. Swazey and the Ashland Avenue Presbyterian Church, occurred last evening in the chapel of the Theological Seminary, on Ashland Avenue. The Ashland Avenue Church was organized in the beginning of November, and now has about sixty members. The attendance last evening in the chapel was large, and the members devoutly attentive and interested.

The exercises opened with prayer by the Rev. David Swing, after which a hymn was sung by the congregation. A portion of St. Paul's First Epistle to Timothy was read, and commented upon by Dr. Swing, followed by prayer, and another hymn.

Professor Swing then took his text from Timothy v: 1: "If a man desireth the office of a Bishop, he desireth a good thing." He said that the question whether a man desired the office of a Bishop or minister might be waived, the term minister being broad and comprehensive enough. The responsibility of a minister was a great work. St. Paul seldom used unmeaning words. The philosophers of the Apostle's time led easy lives, standing calmly or walked quietly; sat in public places the embodiment of repose and peace as well as wisdom. But the preacher's office was a good work. From the plane of human life, an estimate such as would be made of science, the ministerial life presented the picture of a constant affiliation with the best phenomena of mind and heart—the best things of earth, not of ideal life. Language, eloquence